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FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

WE have not had occasion for some time past to comment on foreign affairs, which have rather dwarfed in presence of the grave matters of home concern that have occupied public attention. In fact, our friends the foreigners, though no doubt busy enough with questions of interest to themselves, have not quite been doing their duty of late in the way of providing matter for the amusement of the British newspaper reader. It is all very well for Spaniards to go on in a quiet state of chronic revolution, discussing the terms of their future constitution, and accustoming themselves to live without a king; but till within the last few days they have not done anything stirring. France and Prussia have, no doubt, from time to time been showing—or pretending to show—that they were very much disposed to pull each other's noses; but the world is becoming so much accustomed to that kind of thing that it has ceased to take much heed of it, particularly as the seeming quarrels had more the air of being those of journalists gravelled for lack of matter than of either peoples or governments. The doings of

Russia in Central Asia and her supposed designs on British India, are of interest chiefly to Indian military men tired of "inglorious ease" and eager for opportunities of distinguishing themselves. Austria has been quietly reforming her institutions; and Italy has been trying, with more or less of success, to perfect hers. So the British public have been left at leisure to mind their own affairs, comparatively undisturbed by foreign broils; and a lucky thing, too, seeing that the affairs we have had to mind have been of sufficient gravity to claim undivided attention. Just now, however, there is a lull in home politics while our legislators are enjoying their holidays and the Peers are considering what they will—or dare—do in the way of rejecting or mutilating the Irish Church Bill; and, as it happens, current events abroad are of sufficient interest to fill up the pause in home affairs.

The French, for a week or two past, have been in the enjoyment of what we suppose is to them a great—because rare—treat. They are in the turmoil of a general election; and as that is an event which occurs but seldom, and is attended with certain privileges not accorded at other times,

it has all the zest of novelty to the most novelty-loving people in Europe. Ministerial responsibility being a principle as yet unrecognised by the French constitution, and the Emperor having always a large numerical majority in the elective Chamber, Government defeats, and dissolutions consequent thereon, are unknown in France under her present paternal and personal system of rule. Consequently, French Parliaments, delivered from the fear of violent death, usually live out their allotted legal term of existence. Hence, general elections are events few and far between in Gallic land, and have to be made much of when they do occur. Moreover, for a certain number of days between the dissolution of one Chamber and the election of another, a modified measure of liberty in political action is allowed. Freedom of speech and the right of public meeting are permitted, under restrictions more or less stringently interpreted according to the mood of the local powers that be. It is little wonder, then, that a people ordinarily so hampered in these respects, should hail election time—or, as they phrase it, the "période électorale"—with a "wild shriek of liberty."



VELOCIPEDE-PRACTISING AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE

and should indulge in some extravagances both of speech and action. Accordingly, some rather wild utterances have been heard in public assemblies, a few men have said indiscreet things, and a little rioting has occurred in the streets of Paris and elsewhere; but, as it seems to us, nothing to excite the fears or alarm the susceptibilities of even the most devoted friends of paternal personal government. Why, even here in England, accustomed as our people are to free speech and unfettered political action, general—and even local—elections do not always pass off without a considerable amount of rash talk, and, occasionally, a not inconsiderable quantity of head-breaking; and yet, for all that, we never dream of the State or the Constitution being in danger from what Continentals call "the revolution." And why should it be otherwise in France? Why should not Frenchmen—as a rule, and not as a mere temporary exception—be intrusted with the privileges of free speech and action as well as Englishmen? Any tool is safer in the hands of a practised workman accustomed to handle it, than in those of a mere novice who only touches it occasionally; and were Frenchmen permitted habitually to work political institutions, they would probably soon learn to go about the business in a perfectly sedate and orderly manner. Frenchmen, it is true, differ from Englishmen in some important respects; but we think that the conduct of his subjects, taken as a whole, during this present election time, might well warrant the Emperor in tolerating a good deal more political freedom than he usually allows, and in going a little further in the direction of "crowning the edifice of liberty" than he has heretofore ventured. In short, the French of the present day appear to be as capable of using freedom without abusing it as most other nations.

The debates on the Constitution in the Spanish Constituent Cortes—while they, too, have been marked by some rather wild utterances—have tended to show that even Spaniards are capable of managing Parliamentary discussions with a degree of propriety and wisdom that would do no discredit to nations that plume themselves highly on their gifts in that way. And those debates, moreover, have eventuated in the adoption of some principles of the very utmost importance and value. Absolute personal freedom, together with freedom of the press, freedom of commerce, freedom of religion, and the equality of all citizens before the law, are henceforth to be the rule in Spain; and, if these things be secured, it is immaterial whether the feat be accomplished under a form of Government avowedly Republican or under a Monarchy, with or without a Monarch—the latter being the state of things likely to obtain in Spain for at least some time to come. The adoption of the principle of religious liberty alone ought to entitle the Spanish Cortes to the admiration and gratitude of mankind; and, though we might have wished to see the principle carried out a little further—that is, to its logical conclusion of acknowledging no State creed whatever—we must remember that it is bigoted Catholic Spain, the Spain of Philip II., of which we are speaking, and be content with what is achieved. Verily, the world moves; and Spain moves with it. May her motion be ever as steadily onward in the right direction as it has been since September last!

And this recalls to recollection the fact that movement is apparent in other quarters as well as in Spain. Here, for instance, is Austria, once the stronghold of despotism and the stay of every petty oppressor, steadily working Parliamentary institutions, and freeing herself one by one from the trammels of priestly and bureaucratic domination. Cisleithan Austria is reconciled to Hungary, and in each country the people are equally loyal to the Emperor and his Crown. Civil marriages are the law of the land, a national system of education is adopted, the people choose their representatives in the national councils, and those councils exercise control over the imposition and expenditure of taxes. Why, this is very much like Government as in England; and it is, perhaps, not surprising that Frenchmen should be eagerly demanding for their country "freedom as in Austria." Then—most unwonted spectacle of all!—here is the Sultan delivering a speech to his council of Ministers, insisting on wise legislation, economy, care, and honesty in the management of the finances, and actually congratulating his advisers on the improved state of the national credit! And this has occurred in Turkey, be it remembered, the most conservative, and, perhaps, heretofore worst governed country in the world! Do not these facts indicate progress? Why, we shall have the Grand Seignor delivering a speech at the opening of a regular popularly-chosen Parliament at Constantinople one of these days! Clearly, the "sick man" is taking a new lease of life; and Great Britain is no longer to enjoy a monopoly of Constitutional Government.

We wish we could here close our review of foreign affairs for the present; but there is a dark spot on the political sky to which we must needs advert; and that dark spot is in the West. The Alabama question and Mr. Sumner's speech thereon continue to occupy attention in the United States; and the gist of the discussions on the subject is that, though the Americans may not be quite prepared to go all the lengths of Mr. Sumner's demands, or Mr. Chandler's way of settling them, they are disposed to go as far in that direction as they can. The newspapers insist upon the wrong we did the North in prematurely, as they say, acknowledging the belligerency of the Southern rebels, and in not showing sufficient sympathy with the United States in their great struggle with the Confederacy. From those deeds, and others that flowed from them, they allege,

innumerable evils accrued to the Union, for which even payment in full of the Alabama claims would but poorly compensate. We have no wish to aggravate an already sufficiently acrid dispute; but we cannot help repeating that in all their deliverances on this subject American writers and orators are utterly and hopelessly illogical and inconsistent. There was, they say, no war—only a rebellion—when we acknowledged the South as belligerents; but a rebellion implies fighting, and fighting implies fighters—that is, belligerents; therefore there was war, and consequently belligerents, when we recognised such to be the fact. Moreover, there was a blockade; while, if there had been no war, there could have been no blockade, for a nation cannot well blockade itself; and if no blockade, then no blockade-runners; if no blockade-runners, then no illegal traders; and if no illegal traders, then all captures of British vessels by United States cruisers were illegal, for which the injured British subjects are entitled to compensation. That is one way of putting the matter; but here is another which has as much of reason and justice to recommend it as most of the demands put forth by Americans. The people of the United States engaged in a certain disturbance in their country—we must not, we suppose, call it a war—in consequence of which we in this country were deprived of the supplies of cotton upon which our great national industry depended; we also lost the market we previously enjoyed in America for our manufactured goods; our operatives were thrown idle; they endured loss of wages, famine, and ruin; many of them perished, and more are still enduring the poverty caused by the "cotton famine"; capital became as unproductive as labour, and our trade and commerce sustained a shock from which they have not yet, and perhaps never will, recover. All this arose directly from the war—we beg pardon, rebellion or disturbance—in the United States; and for all this, and the consequences that have and are likely to result, our people have as good a claim for compensation as have the Americans for damages on most of the pleas put forth by Mr. Sumner and those who share his views. We do not advance this claim as one to be seriously entertained; but it is as reasonable as those made against us; and, reckoning up the losses, direct and indirect, which the people of Great Britain suffered from the disturbance in America, we dare say it would not be difficult to balance Mr. Sumner's "little bill," inflate it as he may.

VELOCIPEDES AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

THERE is little, if anything, in the way of novelty that is not to be found at the Crystal Palace, and velocipedes are no exception. The mania for riding on bicycles is too peculiar a feature of the times to escape the attention of Mr. Bowley, and accordingly he has organised conveniences for velocipede-riding—or velocipeding, if we may be allowed to make a new word to express a novel act—at the Sydenham "people's palace," where the sport is carried on with great vigour and success, albeit with occasional ludicrous disasters. Our Engraving exhibits some specimens of the performances.

"SUNDAY MORNING."

FROM THE PICTURE BY THE LATE WILLIAM COLLINS, R.A.

MANY of our readers will recognise with the pleasure that we feel in receiving an excellent likeness of an old and admired friend, the Engraving which we publish this week as a supplement to the ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

Perhaps no work of Collins's has ever been so generally appreciated as that which has been named "Sunday Morning." It is full of that quiet, tender beauty of the English landscape, and that pure atmospheric effect, for which the painter was so justly celebrated; and, in addition to its interpretation of natural scenery, it recalls one of those "good old fashions" of the "good old times" which English people like to remember. It may be doubted, perhaps, whether anybody ever goes to church on a pillion nowadays, even in the remotest country district; but it is not so very long ago that in places not far from London the farmer's wife, if not the squire's lady, occasionally rode on horseback to the old-fashioned church porch and hooked the bridle to a stanchion till after service, when she rode home again to partake of the Sunday pie that had been set to bake in the oven.

The son of a picture-dealer, who was also an author, Mr. Collins began his art-life at a very early age as a pupil of Morland, and at the same time as Etty. From the first he was distinguished for the choice of his subjects and the care with which he finished his drawings in every detail; and from the time when, in 1815, he became an Associate of the Royal Academy to the year 1820, when, by his diploma picture, "The Young Anglers," he was admitted, he became an Academician, he observed the same course. For sixteen years he exhibited, without missing a year; and though he afterwards, by the advice of Wilkie, changed his style, and travelled on the Continent, that he might produce Italian landscapes and some illustrative figure-pieces, he ultimately, to the great satisfaction of an appreciative public, returned to the delineation of those scenes of English life for which he had formerly been so famous.

MARFORI, the ex-Intendant of Queen Isabella, was, a few nights back, the victim of a robbery in his apartment, Avenue Josephine. His valet, a Neapolitan, contrived to get possession of a bunch of keys which opened a private cabinet, and abstracted a sum of 30,000fr. (£1200).

THE EMBANKMENT OF THE WARWICK AND NAPTON CANAL near the first-named town burst on Sunday afternoon. The waters spread over the adjoining fields, and did serious mischief to the crops and property in the vicinity.

THE RECENT OUTRAGE ON MISSIONARIES IN CHINA.—Papers respecting the proceedings of her Majesty's ship Janus at Sharp Peak Island, near Foo-Chow-Foo, were published on Monday. The following communication from the Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Alcock concludes the correspondence:—"Foreign Office, April 23, 1869.—Sir,—Her Majesty's Government have received from Vice-Admiral Sir H. Koppel copies of a correspondence respecting certain proceedings of her Majesty's consular and naval officers in support of the claim of the Rev. Mr. Wolfe, a missionary, to a piece of land purchased by him for the use of the mission at Sharp Peak Island, near Foo-Chow-Foo. The papers forwarded by Sir H. Koppel supply the only information that has reached her Majesty's Government on the subject; but they are sufficient to enable them to judge of the Consul's proceedings, which, I have to inform you, are entirely disapproved, except in so far as relates to his application to the local authorities. Those authorities, it appears by Consul Sinclair's letter to Lieutenant Keppel of Jan. 19, were perfectly ready to obtain redress for the missionary, and it was inexcusable precipitancy on the part of Consul Sinclair not to await the result of the course which, on his representation, they might take; and, even if that had been unsatisfactory, the case was not one calling for forcible interposition on the part of the Consul, or of the naval officer whom he instigated to apply it, without previous reference to Peking. The Consul's measures had a direct tendency to provoke, without sufficient cause, collision with the Chinese authorities and people; and I have to instruct you strongly to censure Mr. Sinclair for what he did, and to caution him to be more circumspect for the future."

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The elections are still causing great excitement in France. At Nîmes a crowd sung the "Marseillaise" on Sunday; the prison of the small commune of Bourges has been forced, and a prisoner rescued from the hands of the police; and there has been rioting, attended with bloodshed, in the Aude. As many as 149 persons have been arrested since May 12, for taking part in disturbances of this kind, and of these 132 are still in custody.

SPAIN.

In Monday's sitting of the Constituent Cortes, Senor Figuerola, the Minister of Finance, laid before the House the estimates of the expenditure for the current year, which amount to 2087 millions of reals. Compared with the revenue, there is a deficit of 800 millions of reals. The charge for the public debt amounts to 822,312,280 reals, the expenditure of the War Department to 376,650,900 reals, and that of the Ministry of Justice and Public Worship to 198,979,280 reals.

Intelligence received at Madrid states that 2000 partisans of Queen Isabella have assembled at Perpignan, and are preparing to enter Spain under the command of General Gasset and Pezuela. The idea of a Regency is again gaining ground.

PORTUGAL.

The British steamer Borneo, having on board the expeditionary force sent to Mozambique by the Portuguese Government, has sailed from the Tagus. The troops are destined to act against the ferocious black chief Bonga, who gave such fearful proof of his treachery and prowess about twelve months ago, when his followers surprised and cut to pieces an entire Portuguese regiment. The expedition is armed and appointed in the best manner; it carries rifled cannon and rocket batteries, and is officered by competent men. Under such circumstances it is probable that prompt vengeance will fall upon Bonga and his merciless hordes; for, setting aside the contingency of treachery, one Portuguese soldier has hitherto shown himself a match for a dozen natives.

AUSTRIA.

The formal closing of the Austrian Reichsrath took place last Saturday, the Emperor delivering in person the speech from the throne. His Majesty expressed his satisfaction with the labours of the Assembly, and referred to the friendly relations between Austria and other Powers as a guarantee for the maintenance of peace. The financial prospects of the empire were spoken of by the Emperor in hopeful terms, and the measures of the past Session, embodying important social reforms, enumerated. His Majesty, in conclusion, spoke of the necessity of a good understanding between the various races of the empire, and said it could not fail to be brought about, as Austria offered to all of them freedom and independence.

SWEDEN.

The King closed the Diet last Saturday. His Majesty, in his speech from the throne, expressed satisfaction that the Diet had shown itself inclined to legislate upon a closer union between Sweden and Norway, and also manifested his approval of the laws which have been passed for reorganising the management of the State forests. He, moreover, promised that the question of a more extended religious freedom should be subjected to a careful investigation. The speech from the throne makes no allusion whatever to foreign relations.

THE UNITED STATES.

President Grant has issued a proclamation ordering an election to be held, on July 6, in Virginia, on the new State Constitution. He orders at the same time that a separate vote should be taken on the sections of the Constitution which disfranchise participants in the rebellion, and which enforce the test oath for officials assuming office.

Mr. Motley, it is said by American newspaper correspondents, will use his own discretion in regard to the reopening of the Alabama claims negotiation, and will first endeavour, on coming to this country, to familiarise himself with the state of English public opinion on the matter. It is added, however, that the Washington Government regard the premise of Mr. Sumner's speech as forming the true basis for future negotiations.

CUBA.

The Cuban insurgents are said to be negotiating for the purchase of some Peruvian monitors which are now at St. Thomas. The insurgent Congress is sitting at a village a few miles from Puerto Principe, and has passed resolutions in favour of annexation to the United States. Meanwhile, they speak hopefully of their prospects, although their tone is far from being absolutely confident. On the other hand, Admiral Koff and the United States Government agents in Cuba report that the insurrection is weak and declining. The American revenue officers have been ordered by the Government strictly to enforce the neutrality laws, and to prevent the sailing of expeditions to aid the insurgents.

CHINA.

The news from China is not of a cheering nature. The old dislike of foreigners is showing itself in several ways; the missionaries have been denounced throughout the empire as barbarian wolves, and it is rumoured that the French Ambassador has been slapped in the face by a high Chinese official at Peking, and has in consequence hauled down his flag.

AUSTRALIA.

A Parliamentary Committee of Inquiry into certain charges of bribery and corruption against members of the Legislative Assembly has resulted in the expulsion of one member. Further expulsions are expected.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

From the Cape we learn that diamonds still continue to be found there. Litigation had arisen respecting the 83-carat diamond, the discovery of which was announced by the last mail. A company of gentlemen maintain that it came from a district in which, by a treaty with the native chief, they have a right of royalty upon all gems that may be found. They have therefore applied for and obtained an injunction forbidding the sale of the diamond.

From the Cape we also learn that an instrument has been invented there for "ascertaining with accuracy the variations of the compass from local attraction or other causes, which are so puzzling and sometimes so dangerous to navigators." The instrument has been thoroughly examined in the colony and favourably reported upon; and the inventor has come to England by the present mail-steamers to submit it to competent authority.

THE NATIONAL LIFE-BEAT INSTITUTION has just received from the executors of the late Thomas Brown, Esq., formerly of the firm of Mes. Longman and Co., a legacy of £500, duty free.

WHIT MONDAY.—Whit Monday is generally held to be the great holiday of the working classes. "All the world and his wife"—and, it might be added, the children also—turn out, weather permitting, and rush off in every conceivable direction, by road and rail, by omnibus and steamboat, to invade the pleasant country lanes overhung with the fragrant blossoms of the hawthorn and fringed with primroses and cuckoo-bells. This year the festival comes unusually early, and, after the "wintry weather" of the spring, the genial sunshine of Monday appeared to double the usual exodus from the courts, alleys, and densely-crowded neighbourhoods of the metropolis. The streets were thronged, and at every railway station hundreds of disappointed tourists were left behind. Among the most interesting outdoor points of attraction were volunteer reviews at Panshanger and Tooting-common. At the latter about 1900 men were under arms, and by direction of Lord Truro a very unpretending but pleasing variety of field movements were executed. At the former what was "done" was called a sham fight; but, although the 3000 men performed the movements required from them most creditably, those movements were so much the reverse of what would occur in real fight as to lead to some very natural gossip as to what school of tactics the commanding officer was attached. In the evening the theatres and other places of amusement were crowded.

THE MONARCHICAL QUESTION IN SPAIN.

MADRID, May 16.

THE speaking in the Cortes Constituent on the form of Government has up to this time been above the average, and, with the exception of one "scene" with Senor Paul, the Deputy for Xeres, has been characterised by an absence of the violence and recrimination which was to be feared from the open discussion of principles so opposite to each other as the Monarchy and the Republic. In the shape of "amendments"—which, in Spain as well as elsewhere, are discussed before "original motions"—they have tried to upset and to restrict the kingly idea. The majority have been kept well in hand by the Committee, and the result has been that every amendment proposed has been either rejected or withdrawn, save one, which the Committee accepted without discussion, and which causes article 32 to read:—"The sovereignty resides essentially in the nation, and from it all the powers proceed." The following is a complete list of all the amendments, and the order in which they were discussed:—

1. By Senor Garrido, Republican:—Art. 32. "All the powers emanate from the nation, and are exercised by temporal and responsible delegates." Lost by 157 to 64. By Senor Ferrer y Garcia:—Art. 32. "All the powers emanate from the nation, and none of them can be delegated hereditarily." Rejected without voting.

2. By Senor La Rosa:—Art. 32. "The sovereignty resides in the people, from whom emanate all the public powers. These only can be exercised by delegates." Rejected without a division, though the Committee subsequently accepted this amendment almost verbatim.

3. By Senor Orense:—Art. 33. "The form of government of the Spanish nation is the Democratical Federal Republic." After a four-hours' speech from Senor Orense, and a two-hours' one from Senor Ulloa, on the part of the Committee, this was lost by 182 to 64.

4. By Senor Garcia Ruiz:—Art. 33. "The form of government of the Spanish nation is the Democratical Republic." Lost by 157 to 2. As it involved the unitary Republic, and not the federal, the whole of the Republicans, save Garcia Ruiz and Sanches Rnomo, abstained from voting.

5. By Senor Sanches Rnomo:—"The form of government of the Spanish nation is the Republic." Withdrawn by the proposer, in view of the results of previous divisions.

6. By Senor Paul:—"The Spanish nation is governed by itself, and delegates the executive power to a Directory of five, which will be named by the Cortes every three years." Rejected without a division.

7. By Senor Soler:—"The Chief of the State must be a Spaniard by birth, and never have lost that quality. The income conceded to him will be determined before the exercise of his charge; but not exceed a million reales (£100,000) annually, in addition to the palaces and gardens destined for his use." Opposed by Senor Silveira for the Committee, and ultimately withdrawn.

8. By Senor Balaguer:—"The form of government of the Spanish nation is the Democratic Monarchy." Withdrawn, after a speech from Senor Oloaga, in which he said the Committee had accepted an amendment whose spirit was the same—viz., "The sovereignty resides in the nation, and from it all the powers proceed."

9. By Senor Garrido:—"The person or persons who exercise the supreme power of the nation must be Spaniards, sons of Spaniards, and born in Spain." This was intended to exclude any of the foreign candidates, especially Montpensier. It was opposed by Senor Silveira for the Committee, and lost by 124 to 60.

By Senor Abarzuza (R.):—"The form of government and the person of the chief of the State shall be the subject of a plebiscite." Opposed by Senor Ulloa for the Committee, and lost by 187 to 70.

Thus were all the alterations and amendments got rid of, having occupied the sittings of three days. The articles, as an original motion, are now being discussed, and the debates are very interesting.

The speeches pro and con, have all been so good that it is almost impossible to single out any in particular. That of Senor Orense was of four hours' duration, and was a complete review of Spanish history from the earliest ages, to show how impossible it was for the people to respect the monarchical institutions now they had once got rid of them. Senor Ulloa, in reply, very ably argued that if they could secure such a monarchy as England, which he depicted in very glowing colours, they would be very loth to turn to anything else. Senor Paul's was the only speech which created a scene. He intimated that if they voted the monarchy, the people would fight. The President called him to order several times, and told him the people would respect and follow the vote of the Cortes. Prim said if any of the people were so foolish as to resist the decisions of the Assembly, the Government would have to meet force with force. He expressed surprise that a deputy should use words in the Cortes which, when circulated amongst the masses, might themselves be the very means of exciting them. Senor Paul is the deputy for Xeres, and as such believes in the immaculate patriotism of those who got up the insurrection in that city. He is a great hater of the present Government, and accuses it of being unpatriotic and dangerous. Senor Balaguer's speech in favour of the Democratical Monarchy was a powerful one, and Senor Oloaga's, in reply, was equally good. Both were, however, so much time lost, for Senor Oloaga ended by announcing that the Committee had accepted an amendment in the same spirit, and Senor Balaguer then withdrew his. If there be any superiority in the speeches thus far it is that of Senor Abarzuza—that is to say, his was the most eloquent among a set of speeches of which all were eloquent. Indeed, the Parliamentary power exhibited in the present Cortes far exceeds what is usually found in the average of legislative assemblies. I have not heard one deputy stutter and struggle through a speech in the manner we sometimes hear in our own House of Commons, but which those who read the speeches after they have gone through the ordeal of the printing-office fail to perceive. Every deputy seems born with the faculty of clearly, forcibly, and connectedly manifesting his ideas. In a word, the Spanish Cortes of 1869 are a school for oratory.

All the amendments being disposed of, the Cortes, on Friday night, commenced the debates on the articles as an "original motion."

In the new shape the Committee have edited them, they stand as follows:—

Art. 32. The sovereignty resides essentially in the nation, from which emanate all the powers.

Art. 33. The form of government of the Spanish nation is the monarchy.

They are being discussed jointly, as the religious articles were. The first speeches have been from Senor Palanca, Republican; and Senor Silveira, Monarchist. Both have been exceedingly able and eloquent. There are to be four more on each side. It will in all probability be towards the end of next week before a decision takes place—or rather, I should say, "division," for the decision is already given by the majority; and that is to vote the Monarchy. But, as to vote the Monarchy is not to bring the King, Serrano will then be immediately invested with the Regency, and the Ministry is to be remodelled. Serrano at first refused to accept the Regency; now he says, if the country wishes it, he will accept it, but only for such time as the Cortes may be settling the 112 articles of the Constitution, when he will give it up to the King whom they ought then to proclaim. As, however, the right King does not seem to have been discovered, there is no doubt that, once invested with the Regency, Serrano will retain it so long as the nation desires. He (Serrano) has been very anxious to keep the present Ministry together till articles 32 and 33 are voted, but the break-up has already begun in the retirement of Senor Laurezana, the Foreign Minister. This is attributed to the interference of Senor Oloaga in the diplomatic arrangements, which are particularly Laurezana's charge.—*Daily News Correspondent.*

A HIGHLAND WOMAN IN CANADA 126 YEARS OF AGE.—The following account of a remarkable case of longevity is published in a Scotch Canadian paper:—"In Glenary there is at present living a woman who is 126 years of age, and who is still as active and as diligent in attendance on her duties as many a woman who has not yet reached sixty. She has frequently, during the past summer, milked as many as twelve cows daily. Her name is Anne Campbell. She was born in the island of Skye, in the parish of Bracadale. The greater part of her life was passed in her native country, which, however, like so many others, she left when already an old woman. At the age of eighty-five she emigrated to Canada, where, if she survive till next fall, she will have lived forty-two years, making her age 127 years. During all this time she has never had occasion to seek medical aid, nor has she ever as much as tasted medicine. Her good health she herself attributes to having been much in contact with the breath of cattle. She is still in possession of all her faculties."

THE SULTAN'S SPEECH.

THE following is the full text of the speech of the Sultan on May 6. The Grand Vizier, having read a report on the political and administrative situation of Turkey, his Majesty said:—

The report which has just been read tells us that during the past year a number of laws and regulations have been promulgated with the object of introducing administrative reform, advancing progress, and the development of the public wealth and civilisation, as well as for the purpose of organising the tribunals and the various councils. It cannot be doubted that in the application of these regulations as they ought to be applied—namely, in completing and rectifying laws the defects of which we have learnt by experience; and, on the other hand, in still further elaborating those laws the utility of which we have also learnt, our country and our nation will soon rise to the first rank of prosperity and civilisation, and daily increase in grandeur and power. It is for this noble object that the Council of State has been formed and created, and the Council daily appreciates the extent as well as the importance of their high mission; and the results already achieved, as well as the efforts which will be made in the future, are a cause of real satisfaction to me.

A very fortunate circumstance, upon which we cannot congratulate ourselves too highly, has been the public recognition, last year, of the rights of my Government, and the friendly action of the great Powers, my friends and allies. This is the happy result of the respect shown by my Government to the treaties and rights of those Powers, as also of our moderation, and our efforts, based upon our own well-being and that of other nations, to preserve peace. And, as I desire in future faithfully to strive for the protection and preservation of our legitimate rights, and also most assiduously to seek to arouse and develop the friendly sentiments so happily established by treaties with friendly Powers, our foreign relations will in future be as much in accordance with the rights and honour of every one as with the demands of civilisation.

Another benefit of Providence has been the complete repression of the deplorable troubles which for some time and from various causes have disturbed Crete. To-day the island and its inhabitants are entirely tranquil, and perfect security prevails. This fortunate result we owe as much to the good and numerous services of the army and the devoted zeal of the officers of every grade as to the people of Crete who remained faithful. I rejoice here to record my entire satisfaction. I also repeat that I have given the necessary orders that, without negligence or partiality, the greatest care should be taken to carry out those laws which have been enacted for the purpose of according to the island all possible prosperity, and to promote the well-being and security of the inhabitants of the island, both as regards their persons and property.

The touchstone of civilisation and prosperity with all Governments, in all ages, and especially with ours, as also the cause of power and strength, lies in the solidity and progress of the public credit. So far as we are concerned, we see in the report most encouraging facts. Our credit has greatly increased, if we compare it with another epoch. That progress is the result of the increase of the revenue, the natural results of the development of commerce and agriculture, of the reforms and improvements introduced in the employments of the amounts received and those expended, in the method of keeping the accounts, and in the scrupulous fulfilment of our engagements. My real desire is that we should profit by the experience we have gained in steadily advancing, and that the Budget may be published as soon as possible.

As is the case of individuals, the necessities of a State advance equally with the progress of civilisation. If one were to say that the necessary expenses of such a State twenty, thirty, or even ten years ago, did not represent one tenth part of the expenses of to-day, it would be no exaggeration. The progress of science and art has produced such numerous discoveries in the arms of war and all things connected therewith, that a State anxious to preserve its rank, and to place itself in a position to defend its rights, must, according to its position and resources, assure its possession of the means of defence. The present expenses of empires are, in fact, so much increased that they cannot be compared with those of former times.

In one word, civilisation and progress mean the advancement of the constant principles of a State in all its parts. Public credit depends on the richness of the people—that is, on the development of agriculture and commerce—and agriculture and commerce increase by the propagation of science and art.

The facilitation of trade depends upon the number of the railroads and routes, upon the employment of capital and productive materials, and, lastly, upon the existence of a magistracy guaranteeing the full execution of justice. Whoever knows and judges us with justice will see that our Government has already made great advances on this path; nor shall we stand still, but rather that which we have already performed will excite us on to fresh efforts. We do not look back upon the road we have traversed, but our eyes are fixed on the path before us, until we attain that rank among those civilised nations whose works we see in all things. Our efforts must strive to reach that goal.

In accordance with those considerations and intentions, the members of the Council of State and all other functionaries, without distinction of race or religion, considering themselves as sons of a common country and members of one body, should, as I recommend, act with perfect union and sincerity. I repeat my pressing recommendation to the end that at the next Imperial Session, which will take place in a year, everything will be done which is necessary relative to these matters, and that the laws established in principle and regarded as the basis of the results sought for shall be elaborated.

The security of persons and property, the protection of honour and reputation, that the right of every one shall be guaranteed being able to live by his trade and by the fruits of his labour; these things depend above all upon the good organisation of the courts of justice, the natural defenders of the people. The legal dispositions made for protecting the business and rights of every one will be specially revised with a view to the necessities of our time, and then sent back to the various tribunals, which will prove most advantageous.

I recommend to all, both generally and specially, to actively employ themselves in this revision, to reform and regulate the religious and civil tribunals, and with the greatest care to apply themselves to teaching both the religious and civil law.

In conclusion, I repeat my words of last year. The prosperity and the well-being of all my subjects without distinction, and the progressive development of our country, are the objects of my dearest wishes; and I demand from all and each, according to his capabilities, to afford me the assistance of his zeal and endeavours to attain this noble object.

THE POPE AND THE PATRIARCH.

A FEW weeks ago it was announced that the Pope had sent some eminent persons to the Patriarch of Constantinople to invite him to the great Vatican Council. The Greek papers now state that his Holiness has also honoured the Patriarch of Alexandria with a similar summons. At the time appointed the Papal Plenipotentiary, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Alexandria, accompanied by three other clergymen, presented himself before the Patriarch, when, after an exchange of compliments, a colloquy took place, with which we must take great liberties for the purpose of condensation, but our familiar version of which shall fairly represent the original:—

"Roman Catholic Bishop—Most Venerable, I am commanded to hand you a brief inviting the occupant of this Patriarchal throne to the Ecumenical Council.

"Patriarch—Do the contents of the brief agree with those of the Encyclical of the most blessed Pope of old Rome?

"Bishop—They do.

"Patriarch—The desires of his Holiness for the union of all the Churches of Christ is excellent. We, too, of this ancient, apostolic, and glorious Throne of St. Mark have always offered up fervent prayers for the same end. But here the community between us ends: all beyond is delusion and discord. We cannot accept this brief for three reasons. First, it denies the equality which exists among the holy Churches of God, and abolishes their independence, proclaiming that Rome holds sway over other Churches equally self-governing. Secondly, the Pope gives us to understand that salvation is to be obtained exclusively in Rome; whereas the energy of Divine grace has operated, and does operate, throughout the globe. In the third place, the Pope intimates that he assembles the Council on the festival of the Immaculate Conception—a dogma wholly unknown to the Church, a recent innovation, and by no means a solitary one. But why pursue the subject further? If the Holy Pope of old Rome sincerely desires the pacification and unity of the whole Church of Christ, then let him, as a brother, and as an equal among equals, put himself in communication with the other holy Patriarchs, and with them take counsel respecting the methods best calculated for securing the end in view; although the best of all methods would be to adopt the course to which history points, and to approximate the modern institutions of Rome to those of more primitive times. But not acting on this principle, his Holiness will labour in vain, and only further widen the breach which already separates us.

"Bishop—The Holy Father summons this council as head and Sovereign over the Church and successor of the blessed Apostle Peter. But I am not come to discuss.

"Patriarch—Be it so; but we do not yield to such pretensions,

which are at variance with the received teaching of the Church, of which Christ only is the Head.

"Bishop—But you know that your Church is the see of the Apostle Mark, who was consecrated Bishop of Alexandria by the blessed Peter. Besides, did not the great Athanasius appeal to Rome?

"Patriarch—If the Bishop of Rome boasts of St. Peter, he of Antioch has a still better right to do so—Peter having taught and acted as Bishop there before he did at Rome. The consecration of St. Mark by Peter makes no difference, for all the apostles were equal in authority and dignity. Again, if Athanasius appealed to the Bishop of Rome, it was when he was under persecution and as a suffering brother, to one able to help him; not to a superior.

"Bishop—For such an end as unity should you not be a little less precise, and not stand so much on your dignity?

"Patriarch—No; this is not a question of a form but of a most important principle. But, not to prolong this discussion, let me repeat once for all that, as this new attempt on the part of his Holiness the Pope has miscarried, it is necessary, if he sincerely desires the unity of the Universal Church, that he should write to the Patriarchs individually, and, acting in concert, endeavour to come to an understanding with them respecting the course to be adopted—renouncing every idea of domination and every dogma on which opinions may clash in the Church. By so doing his efforts may perchance be crowned with some degree of success."

The conversation here became ceremonious and complimentary, and in the end the Pope's envoy retired with his attendants, carrying with them the rejected invitation.

FEMALE INFANTICIDE IN INDIA.

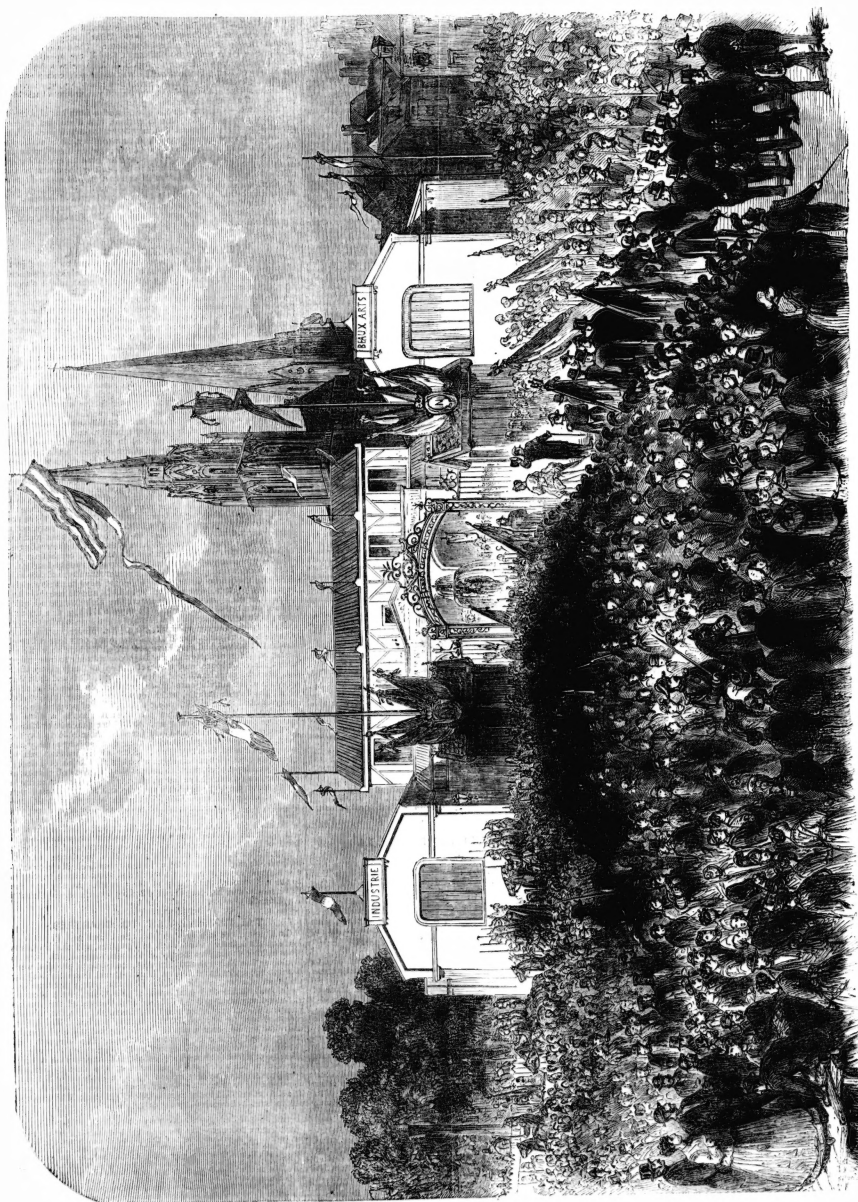
A GREAT deal has lately been written in England on the subject of baby-farming, and the late trial of no less than eighteen women in six towns in France for being members of what might almost be called a society for the suppression of infants, has also excited considerable attention. In this country, however, we are more apathetic, for from the account given of the crime of infanticide by Mr. Hobart, in his report on "Female Infanticide in Butee," it is evident that the crime has been known by the Government to have existed to an alarming extent in that locality for ten years, and that no steps have been taken to check it by legislation. So long ago as 1856 Mr. Moore was specially deputed to investigate into the prevalence of this crime in the very villages visited by Mr. Hobart, and, strange to say, the proportion of males to females in a large number of them is exactly the same now as it was then, namely seventy-nine boys to twenty-one girls under six years of age. Not that this by any means represents the worst cases, for in some villages of the Baboos of Bhudwar Kulan there were 104 boys to one girl, and this one girl only escaped by being born and kept at the house of her mother's family, and for ten years there has been only one girl married in all the villages of this family. The neighbours themselves even pointed out this clan with some degree of horror, remarking that their tanks were deep with infants' bones, and the floors of their houses paved with skulls. But other families are nearly as bad. In twenty-three villages of the Koonwars of Pukherwa Kulan there were 204 boys and only twenty-two girls. In fourteen of these there was said not to be a single girl, and the marriage ceremony was unknown. In five villages belonging to the Baboos of Purtagurh there are said to be only two girls, and the Baboos of Asogpoor have not a single girl, and rather boast that no girl has ever been married from amongst them or known to have been born in their villages. Throughout the whole Pergunnah of Amoria, containing 145 villages, the average was seventy-six boys to twenty-four girls. The proportion among the Goutums, a numerous and proud race who came originally from Oudh, is eighty-eight boys to twelve girls; in eight of their villages not one girl exists, and no marriage has taken place for upwards of ten years. The Kulhums are not quite so bad, as in ten of their villages there were 177 boys to sixty-five girls; but the Chohans average seventy-seven boys to only twenty-three girls in twenty villages. Since Mr. Moore visited these villages but one clan, the Hauras, occupying only four villages, has at all improved, and they have now six girls where none existed formerly. Most of these clans are Rajpoots, refusing to intermarry with their neighbours, and whose clansmen will only marry their daughters in consideration of a heavy dowry. This and the other expenses of the marriage are said to be the causes of the destruction of all the female infants, and even amongst those that survive many are said to be sickly, owing to the want of proper care and attention. To supply women for the adult males a class of marriage brokers has sprung up, who either purchase or kidnap girls of other countries, and sell them to those able to pay for them, who make no inquiries as to their caste so long as they can persuade a Pandit to marry them. Some of the leading men of these clans, conspicuous amongst whom is the Rajah of Bansee, held a *punchayet* to attempt to reduce the expenses of marriages and the sums demanded as dowry, and the Rajah, to set an example to his countrymen, married his nephew and four of his clansmen without accepting any dowry, and with only very small processions, and on the marriage of his son would only accept one gold mohur in *tilluk*. Unfortunately, he is not of the same caste as those amongst whom the crime chiefly prevails, and his example has not been followed, but the Government has written him a letter of thanks for his conduct. The Government of the North-Western Provinces recommends immediate legislation on the subject. It might be a good opportunity for Lord Mayo to exercise his new power of passing a regulation without having recourse to the complicated machinery of the Council. At any rate the Government can no longer abstain from interference.—*Calcutta Englishman.*

THE IMPERIAL VISIT TO CHARTRES.

ON Sunday, the 8th inst., whilst the Prince and Princess of Wales were amusing themselves at Versailles, and the Parisians were making themselves happy on the racecourse of the Bois de Boulogne, the Emperor and Empress, according to promise, went down to the agricultural fête at Chartres, and there his Majesty made an election speech. The Imperial party, accompanied by several ladies and gentlemen of the Court, were received at the railway station by the Mayor and Council of the municipality, and such persons as could be accommodated in that modern reception-hall for sovereigns, the railway station. The Mayor addressed the Emperor in one of those composed series of compliments which belong to corporate bodies. The Emperor had patronised agriculture, and the surrounding communes were during his reign enriched with railways, canals, and other means of communication, for which the department of the Eure-et-Loir was deeply grateful. The Mayor then read an address to the Empress, who had done so much good by her benevolent and charitable acts. The Emperor replied to the effect reported last week. The Imperial visitors were well received by the populace.

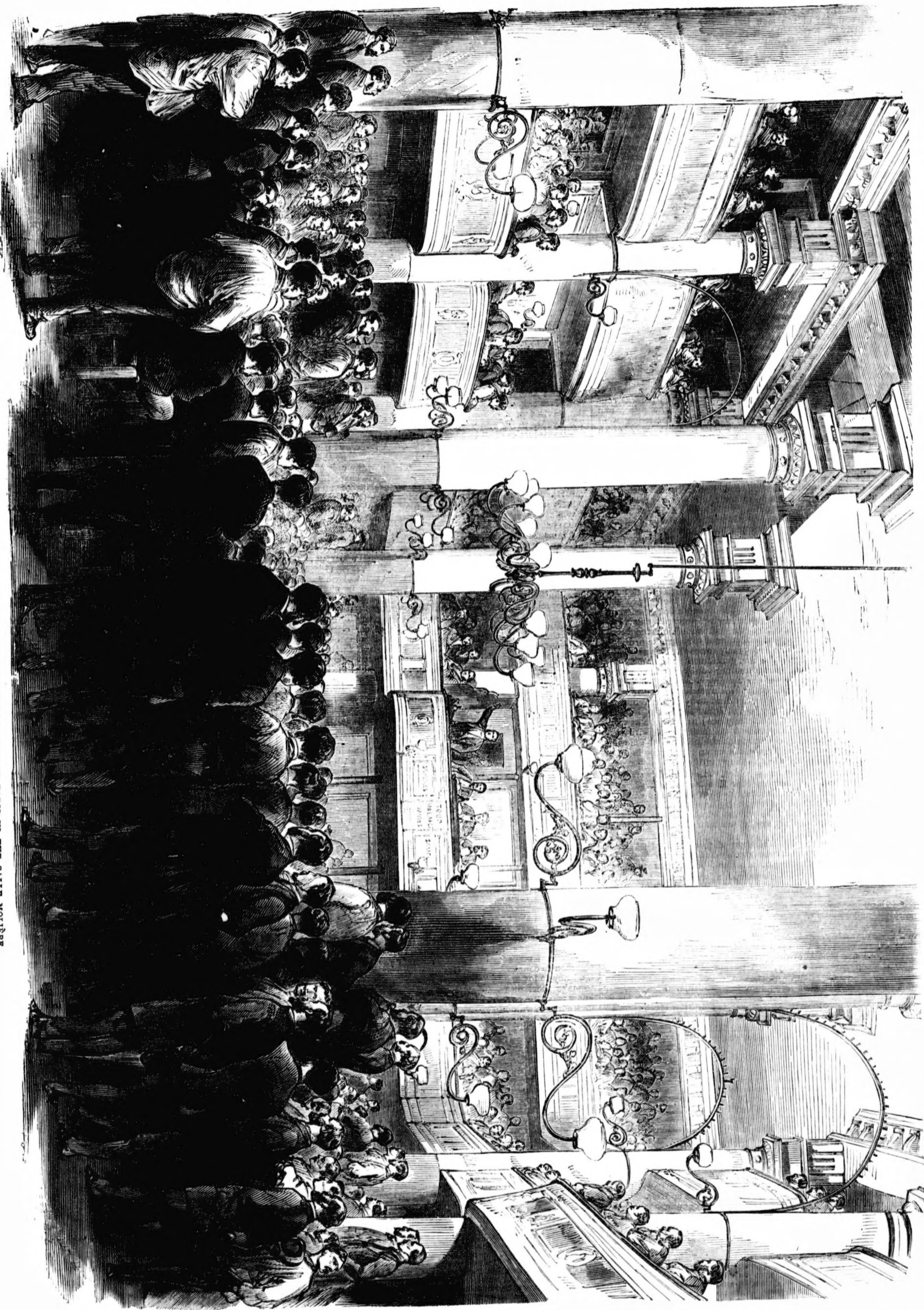
THE PEACE SOCIETY.—The Peace Society held their anniversary meeting, on Tuesday night, at Finsbury Chapel, under the presidency of Mr. Pease, late M.P. for North Durham. Mr. Newman Hall, Mr. Samuel Bowley, Mr. Robert Charlton, and the Rev. Mr. Ball, of Boston, United States, were among the speakers. Resolutions were passed calling on every one to aid to the utmost of his power in calming the public opinion of England and America, and expressing the belief that in spite of the growth of great armaments the public sentiment of Europe was rapidly becoming favourable to the maintenance of peace.

DESTRUCTIVE FROST IN PERTSHIRE.—In consequence of severe frost which prevailed overnight recently in Perthshire, potatoes in gardens and early-planted fields have been blackened. In many places the tender shoots are completely withered. The severity of the frost may be learned from the fact that in numerous instances beech and other hedgerows have been nipped and blasted, and some mornings recently the ice on standing pools was the thickness of a penny. Snow continued to drift at intervals along the hillsides the whole day on Saturday, and was accompanied by a cold piercing east wind. The higher range of hills are covered with snow to the depth of nearly a foot, and consequently pasture and fodder for sheep-docks are more scanty than during the winter months.



RECEPTION OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH AT CHARENTON.

THE FRENCH EMPEROR, EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH, AND THEIR CHILDREN, VISITING THE EXHIBITION OF 1869 IN THE GREAT MUSEUM.



THE FRENCH ELECTIONS: MEETING OF THE THIRD CIRCUMSCRIPTION OF PARIS IN THE SALLE MOLITOR.

THE WAR IN NEW ZEALAND.

THE Maori rebellion in New Zealand has spread, and once more assumed a formidable aspect. Te Kooti, the leader on the east coast, and Tito Kowaru, the leader on the west coast, have both reappeared in the field. The colonists have sustained two distinct disasters on the west coast. A body of constabulary has been attacked, and out of ten men but three escaped. Worse still, another body of European settlers, including one clergyman, has been massacred. This catastrophe occurred at a place called Pukearuhe, near the White Cliffs, about thirty-six miles from New Plymouth, a town situated on the west coast, and very nearly opposite to Poverty Bay, on the east coast. The *Taranaki Herald* gives the following account of this affair:—

"In 1865 a military settlement was established at this place, and a blockhouse garrisoned, thereby stopping up the only road at that time known by which the natives who were hostile to us at the north could come down, or at least making that way much more difficult for them to traverse without being seen. The country that has been occupied as military settlements may be thus roughly described. From the mouth of the Waitara, running inland about eight miles, and northward along the coast twenty miles, the two points, conjoined by a belt of rugged hills across the land, form a triangular block. It was at the furthestmost post that this massacre occurred, a place almost isolated from the rest. About twelve months since it was the act of the present Government—the Stafford Ministry—to remove the garrison from the blockhouse, and most of the settlers who were there have since then gradually left it. A few, however, remained, and it is those who were massacred. There can be no doubt that the Government are responsible for these murders, for they have been repeatedly warned of the danger, and have been requested to replace the men they had taken away; but, with their usual inertness where real danger menaced, they neglected to attend to the advice so frequently given, and the consequence has been the massacre. On Feb. 13 a party of the Ngatimaniapoto tribe, headed by a young chief named Hone Weteri (John Wesley), arrived in the vicinity of the White Cliffs. Having chosen a picked party of about twenty men, leaving forty or more on the beach, he went up to the blockhouse, and, meeting with John Milne, he told him the natives had some pigs to dispose of in the gully leading to the stream (the Wairoa), on the north side of the redoubt. Milne went with him, and when a little way down the winding path he was treacherously tomahawked from behind. Seeing that the other man—Edward Richards—did not come, a native was sent back to tell him they could not agree about the price, and requested him to come and settle it. The poor fellow went unsuspectingly to his doom, and when a short way down was likewise tomahawked in the same way as his comrade. The murderers then went to the blockhouse, and Lieutenant Gascoigne, who with his wife and children were strolling in a paddock which was attached to their house, seeing the natives there, went towards them to ascertain what they wanted. The wretches appeared quite friendly, and shook hands with him, asking at the same time for a light for their pipes. Lieutenant Gascoigne had his youngest child in his arms; so, to oblige the natives, he handed the baby to Mrs. Gascoigne, and walked ahead towards his dwelling. He reached the house and was just in the act of opening the door when he was cut down. The door being on the opposite side of the house to that at which Mrs. Gascoigne was, she did not see her husband's fate. Under some pretence a few of the natives met her, and getting behind, tomahawked her, as they had done the others, at the back. After this the hell-hounds brutally tomahawked the poor helpless children, mutilating their bodies frightfully with their weapons. About the dusk of the evening the venerable missionary, the Rev. John Whiteley, was seen riding towards the place, and, on reaching the summit of the hill on which the blockhouse was built, he was stopped and ordered to return immediately to town; he remonstrated and rode gently forward. The miscreants then fired, killing the horse the Rev. gentleman rode, and as Mr. Whiteley was in the act of rising another volley was fired, killing him likewise. The weather on the Sunday was very boisterous, and it was not till late on the Monday that a settler, having occasion to visit the Gascoignes, came upon the dead body of Mr. Whiteley. Information was at once given to the other settlers residing in that district, who immediately left the place; and as soon as word was sent to town of the occurrence a volunteer force, with very little preparation, started at once to fetch the bodies of the victims into town. They were interred in the cemetery, a procession of over 1000 persons following them to the grave."

The Rev. John Whiteley, it is added, was a minister of the Wesleyan order, and had been in New Zealand since 1833. For the last fourteen years he has laboured amongst the Ngatimaniapoto tribe, a division of which perpetrated this massacre. The Governor, in reply to a deputation from the settlers of the district, said that 200 of the armed constabulary should be sent to the New Plymouth district.

Later intelligence in the *Melbourne Argus* shows that these disasters on the west coast were rapidly followed up by active measures on the part of the colonial forces. The *Argus* says:—

"On March 13 Colonel Whitmore, with a force of about 400 men, attacked the camp of Tito Kowaru, the leader of the insurrection on that side of the island, and, after a sharp fight, completely routed the enemy. The attack was commenced in the early morning, under cover of a dense fog, and the firing at one of their sentries was the first warning the Maories had. About 400 of them, in a state of nudity, and carrying nothing but their guns and pouches, rushed into the open ground, but were met with such a tremendous fire that they dropped down as quickly as they could into a steep wooded gully. A terrific close fire was then kept up for an hour, at the end of which time the mist rose. The men then fairly took to the bush, and fought from tree to tree with a valour never surpassed. For three long hours furious fighting was kept up in this way. The Hau-Haus tried to climb the trees, but were quickly brought down; the women, in the mean time, carrying off the dead in the midst of the heaviest fire, their cries being terrible. There was no shrinking among our men. At the end of four hours the Hau-Haus had retreated through the dense undergrowth, leaving the bush fairly in our hands. All the Maori clothing was captured, as well as guns, tomahawks, revolvers, money, tents, axes, spades, and shovels—in fact, the whole of the enemy's baggage. Seven dead Hau-Haus were found, and two women were made prisoners. The attack was planned with consummate skill and carried out without a single mistake, the men being thoroughly under command during the whole of the engagement. On the side of the attacking force one man was killed and thirteen wounded. Colonel Whitmore is in active pursuit of the fugitives, with the view of preventing their escape into the fastnesses of the interior."

THE DOCKYARD EMIGRANTS who left England in the *Crocodile* and *Serapis* have arrived safely in Canada, and have all gone up West.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF ARMAGH AND HIS GATEKEEPER.—The Archbishop of Armagh has been carrying out a small scheme of disestablishment and disendowment on his own account, and not altogether, we are bound to say, in that "generous and gracious" spirit which we know, on Mr. Disraeli's authority, ought to be conspicuously displayed when such enterprises are taken in hand. His Grace lately gave notice to his gatekeeper to quit; and the defendant, "a respectable old woman," was summoned last week to show cause why the house, of which she persisted in retaining possession, should not be surrendered to the Archbishop. The poor woman stated that her husband, who died last December, had been with the late and present Primate forty-six years, as gatekeeper; and she added that during all that time she had opened the gate of the archiepiscopal residence from four or half-past four in the morning till ten at night. She evidently considered that there were certain "vested interests" to be taken into account, and, under this impression, she declared that it was unfair that the most reverend gentleman "should be fighting for his living in London, and that she should not be allowed to fight for hers." Unfortunately for the lodge incumbent, the Court was as ungracious and ungenerous as the Archbishop, and granted an order that the house should be given up in eight days. No compensation clauses were added to the bill.

DISESTABLISHMENT IN INDIA.

WE do not profess to be what is termed in Press language a religious journal, but we take deep interest in the progress of disestablishment. The Church has been disestablished in Jamaica and in Canada, and will be disestablished in Ireland. The speech of Mr. Gladstone on the Irish Church, although it does not directly touch upon the principle of the measure, indirectly shows that, in the opinion of the speaker, what is applicable to Ireland is not only applicable to England but is universally applicable. It is immaterial what our views on the question are now that opinion is rolling in an irresistible current in one direction and at a rate that must excite the fears of all lovers of State establishments. Our duty is rather to point out what the current must sweep away rather than whether it destroys justly or unjustly. We must look at facts first and deal with them before we have leisure to traverse the delicate but attractive regions of speculation. What is to go after the Irish Church has fallen? Mr. Gladstone said in his electioneering speeches that the argument about the logical conclusion from the disestablishment of the Irish Church being that the English Church ought to go also, must be attributed to the Conservatives. But he himself did not say that the conclusion was a wrong one. There seems to us to be no doubt whatever, notwithstanding the cleverness of Mr. Disraeli in the Lower House and the genius and knowledge of the subject on the part of Lord Cairns in the Upper House, that the bill as brought into the House of Commons will, in all its important provisions, become law, and that the Church in Ireland will cease to exist as a State Church on all "vested interests" being compensated for.

Now there may be no churches in India empty as there are in Ireland, with chaplains highly paid attached to them; but the essential ground on which disestablishment is now based makes the empty church only an extreme case of an injustice which would remain if the churches were full. The question raised is whether or not the Church is the Church of the people. Its application to India is whether it is just and honest to the taxpayers of the country to support an establishment which the majority of the tax-payers not only do not want, but really despise. If we are to behave to India as we behave to Ireland, if the current of opinion on establishments is not shortly to recoil, then the Indian Church Establishment must go, and members of the Church of England, equally with the members of the Church of Rome, and the followers of Wesley, will have to support their own Churches and their own clergy. The injustice is not an injustice to natives only, it is an injustice to every man who does not want the services of a chaplain. It is an injustice not restricted to Wesleyans, to Roman Catholics, and Dissenters, but it is the greatest injustice of all to members of the Church of England who do not attend Government churches. All clergy not on the Government establishment have to be supported by their flocks and by societies; but the peculiar hardship in the case of clergymen of the Church of England who are not chaplains is that their social status is overshadowed by a class of men whose importance is owing to their connection with Government, their higher salaries, and "relative rank." The positions of the chaplains is a most peculiar one, and would not have existed had India been a Crown dependency earlier. The sending out of chaplains in the first place was a project of the East India Company for the protection of the morals of their servants at a time when their servants were not quite so well educated as they are now. The appointment of a Chaplain to Fort St. George was regarded as an economical measure from the point of view of mere merchants. Chaplains increased and multiplied in number, and have continued to do so, more for the sake of patronage at home than for religious necessities here. We have not been slow to award praise where it has been due; we are only too ready to record acts of philanthropy for performing which some of our chaplains have made themselves conspicuous. But we must point out one very important fact—namely, that Church of England institutions for education do not thrive; they only live by means of endowments. Putting aside Mr. Symond's School or College, which owes its importance to the personal character of its head, and which is, moreover, of a peculiar character, and the school recently started by his mission in Vepery, the only Church of England institution of any importance in Madras, which has lasted for any number of years, is Bishop Corrie's Grammar School. Away from Madras—as down in Tinnevely, for instance—the case is very different; but in Madras, at the seat of Government, where the clergy are the most numerous, there was not a few years ago a Church of England institution of any importance in which natives could receive a good education. The best mission schools in Madras are supported by those religious bodies who have no connection with Government whatever. Perhaps the largest school in the city, even not excepting Patcheppah's, is the Free Church Mission School on the Esplanade. Another school, behind the club, which seems well filled and of which we hear a good deal from time to time, belongs to the Wesleyan body. There are no chaplains belonging to either of these bodies. How few clergy of the Church of England do we find at the heads of schools here! Among the clergy in the University senate, those who take the lead are missionary clergy—which is a very significant fact.

We conceive, then, that whatever arguments can be brought forward for disestablishing the Church in Ireland can be brought forward also for disestablishing the Church here. At home it is doubted whether disestablishment would or would not injure the well-being of the Church; but there the clergy are not divided so distinctly into two classes as are the clergy here; the minority of the Church of England clergy are on the Establishment; they have a recognised rank, are better paid than the other clergy, and are Government servants in a country where peculiar significance is attached to connection with Government. The consequence is a tendency to lower the missionary clergy in the eyes of the public, to make them be regarded as of a different caste. A man who knew what the position of a clergyman not on the Establishment in Madras is, would have great confidence in himself and great love for his work before he would engage in it. The success of the Free Church and Wesleyans as schoolmasters in Madras would not have been so great, we imagine, had not their clergy been the first of their class, or had there been different castes among them, as there are among the English.

The grounds upon which the Establishment was first called into existence have passed away. The supplementing insufficient salaries by moral instruction is a thing of the past. Government servants are now paid to be honest, and not to be frightened into being so by the terrors of the world to come. They do not always take advantage of the clergy provided for them, as witness St. Thome Church and Christ Church. Some of them are Roman Catholics, and, of course, do not attend the churches provided with chaplains.—*Madras Athenaeum*, April 7.

THE NEW ARCHDEACON OF CANTERBURY.—The Archbishop of Canterbury has conferred the Archdeaconry of Canterbury, with a stall in the Cathedral annexed thereto, fixed at £1000 a year, with house of residence, vacant by the death of the Venerable Archdeacon Croft, upon the Rev. Edward Parry, M.A., Rector of Acton, Middlesex. Mr. Parry was educated at Rugby School, and at Balliol College, Oxford, and obtained a first class in classics in 1852. He was tutor of Durham University from 1853 to 1856. During 1856 Mr. Parry held the Curacy of Sonning, Berks (under the Rev. Hugh Pearson), and on the elevation of Dr. Tait to the see of London, at the close of that year, became his domestic Chaplain, residing with and working actively at his Lordship's side nearly three years. For the ten years which followed, Mr. Parry has taken an active part in all London diocesan matters, and assisted in the large ordination examinations at Fulham. Mr. Parry has held the Rectory of Acton, Middlesex, since 1859 (in 1859 the population was £2500, but it is now 7000, and rapidly increasing), where he has been instrumental in rebuilding, on a large and handsome scale, the parish church, and in building spacious schools, and also two school churches. He has been for the last five years Rural Dean of the Rural Deanery of Baling (comprising twenty important parishes). Mr. Parry is the only surviving son and the biographer of the late Rear-Admiral Sir Edward Parry, the well-known Arctic traveller. Mr. Parry has already announced his intention of resigning the Rectory of Acton in the autumn. The new Archdeacon of Canterbury and the Rev. Dr. Hornby, Head Master of Eton, were fellow-tutors at Durham during the same period.

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SATURDAY, MAY 22, 1869.

HOLIDAY-MAKING.

MAY is a month whose actual characteristics very frequently contradict its traditions. Notoriously the time of our very strongest east winds, it is also a month in which we not rarely have snow and frost. The topic is at least as old as Cowper; for, in his verses to the poets, bantering them for their choice of May as the symbol of the sun's triumph and the victory of the flowers, he says—

The nymph whose charms your choice you make
Shall prove herself a shrew,
Shall make your scribbling fingers ache,
And pinch your noses blue.

But this year the month of May has gone far to vindicate her old poetic repute. A troubadour come to life again from the fourteenth century would recognise the green flowery favourite of his rondels. The trees have clothed themselves well in leaf; the laburnums, chestnuts, and lilacs are in their glory; and, though we have in the middle of this week had a thunderstorm, with plenty of dashing rain and rattling hail, the weather is good May weather, and the holiday-makers have not had much to complain of.

Whitsuntide in London is a great sight. It does not make much difference to any but working people, their wives and daughters, and friends up from the country; for clerks, shopmen, and those above them do not assume that privilege of striking work when they please which is assumed by the ordinary working man. Some of us have but too much reason to know how difficult it is in relation to certain trades to get men to work on a Monday at all; and stout refusals to work on Whitsun Monday, or rather complete taking-for-granted that no work was wanted or could reasonably be expected on that day, constituted the rule among working people. It is to be feared—and minute observation confirms the fear—that the working man's holiday, when it is a set thing, a tradition like Whitsuntide, is not usually a great success either for himself, his wife, or his children. First, there is the good old rule—

Not by appointment do we meet delight—

the pleasures that come to us are better than the pleasures that we go far to seek. But that is by no means all. The set pleasure-taking of the working man too often involves, unhappily for him, a great deal of toil, besides disproportionate expense, in addition to the sacrifice of time. When it is over he is apt to find himself jaded, out of humour, feverish in the palate, hot in the head, and, no doubt, in some cases, a little worse than that. Still higher up in the scale, and until we come to the cultivated classes proper, we find a similar inaptness at taking pleasure in a set form. The effort to obtain enjoyment is apt to run into the mere desire to do something unusual, or to push ordinary and legitimate pleasures to sudden excess. Hence the breakdown at night and the next morning's reaction. The power of taking a holiday successfully comes only with a certain amount of culture, or with a very happy temperament, fortunately placed. At all events, this is true of set pleasure-taking in great cities. As education goes on and a general "levelling up" takes place; above all, as opportunities of leisure enjoyment are more evenly distributed, we shall see an improvement in this respect; but at present, in spite of the strong impulse which almost everyone must feel to share in every attempt to make holiday in which masses of one's fellow-creatures take part, it is only with alloyed satisfaction that one can regard the Whitsuntide crowds in the streets and suburbs of London.

We believe that this year there has been an unusually small proportion of cases of drunkenness and assault, which is a good hearing indeed, and does something to comfort us for the disgraces of last Christmas-tide. One circumstance was very noticeable this year—the immense number of pleasure-seeking girls about, unchampioned and alone, or in pairs. The admitted and enormous redundancy of women is, of course, felt all down the social scale, and there was really something almost melancholy in seeing so many nice, stout girls plunging about with no one to take care of them.

One incident of these Whitsuntide holidays, of which we have at present only a one-sided account, cannot be passed over. Three hundred excursionists went to Gravesend on Monday morning by the South-Eastern Railway, being told (so they say) that the return-trains would run as late as twelve at night. They reached the Gravesend station by eleven p.m., and found the last train gone. There were numbers of excursionists crowding the station and clamouring for a return train, but they were all bundled out by the police, and forced to take refuge in the public-houses till the morning. If this story is a true one, the South-Eastern Railway Company owe handsome compensation to every one of these greatly-inconvenienced excursionists.

THE LOUNGER.

THE Irish Church Bill, "as amended" in Committee, was "considered" on Thursday, the 13th. It will be recommitted on Friday, the 28th, for the purpose of inserting a clause imposing certain stamp duties. When a bill as amended is considered by the House, new clauses may be added. But the stamp duty clause is a money clause, a clause imposing a tax. Such clauses must be passed by Committee of the whole House, and hence the necessity for recommitting the bill. There will be little or no discussion on this formal clause. On Monday, the 31st, the third reading of the bill will be moved. Of course, there will be a discussion on the third reading; but opposition is hopeless. Conservatism is exhausted, and in all probability on that night the bill will pass through its final stage. There will, though, by way of final protest, doubtless, be a division. On Monday then, the 31st, or on Tuesday, June 1, the bill will be sent up to the Lords, where it will be speedily read a first time, perhaps without debate, and certainly without a division. An opinion has spread rapidly of late that the second reading will not be opposed. On what this opinion is based I have not discovered; but it was when the House broke up so generally and confidently held that I am disposed to believe that their Lordships will accept the principle of the bill. There will, though, at this stage, certainly be a long and perhaps an acrimonious debate, for their Lordships have shown a tendency that way of late. In Committee, then, will be the fight. "Coming to us with such a majority at its back from the Lower House, we must not summarily reject the bill; but we may, of course, amend it." Lord Granville will have to work it through Committee, and stern work he will have, for, in truth, he is not very strongly backed there. There are five other Cabinet Ministers in the upper House: the Lord Chancellor, Earl de Grey and Ripon, Earl Kimberley, the Earl of Clarendon, and the Duke of Argyll. Of Ministers not in the Cabinet there are two, Lord Dufferin and the young Marquis of Lansdowne. Most of these are men of good abilities. But, on the whole, the Ministry in the Lords is not strong in that debating power required for such a work as this. The brunt of the fight for the bill must, therefore, necessarily fall upon Earl Granville. Of course he will have prompters behind the scenes. The Irish Attorney-General will be generally at hand at the foot of the throne, and Mr. Gladstone, when he can get away from the House of Commons, as he will often be able to do. Lord Russell and Lord Westbury ought zealously to aid the Government. But Lord Russell has, to say the least, been eccentric and awkward of late; and Lord Westbury has proved the truth of the old saying that "politicians' gratitude has reference to favours to be received and not to those already given." The bill, we may be sure, will be much "amended" by the Lords, or rather say marred, and then will really come the tug of war. And now, as this is an exceedingly important measure, I will tell you readers what will occur. When the bill as amended shall have been read a third time and passed by the Lords, the Clerk of Parliament, Sir John Lefevre, will bring it down to the Commons and deliver it to the Clerk of the House, Sir Denis Le Marchant. The House will then order the Lords' amendments to be considered on a certain day, and on that day this will appear on the paper as an "order of the day."—The Irish Church Bill, consideration of the Lords' amendments." And when the proper time comes the Clerk will call out this order, and thereupon Mr. Gladstone will move "that the Lords' amendments be now considered." A debate may arise upon this question. Some one may oppose the consideration and move that the amendments be considered this day six months. But we may be pretty sure that this will not be done. The Speaker will then take the bill in his hands and read the first amendment. Mr. Gladstone will move that the House do agree to the amendment, or disagree; whereupon debate may arise, and the question will have to be settled by or in the usual way. In this manner all the Lords' amendments will be gone through; and one need not be an inspired prophet to foresee that some of the amendments will be agreed to and some disagreed to. And now the bill must go back to the Lords, and this will be the form of procedure.—The House of Commons will appoint a Committee to draw up reasons for disagreement and report the same to the House. The House having received the report and agreed to it, a message will be sent to communicate said reasons to the Upper House in writing, or to desire a conference. If a conference be desired, this will be the way in which the conference will be regulated.—Each House will appoint managers; and, at the time and place appointed by the Lords, whose privilege it is to appoint time and place, the conference will be held in due form—form settled by ancient rule, order, or custom. When the time has arrived for the meeting of the managers in conference, each House will suspend business, and not resume it till the managers shall have returned. The managers for the Commons will enter the conference-chamber first. They will enter uncovered, and remain standing, uncovered, the whole time within the bar. The Commons having taken up their position, my Lords will enter, covered, till they come just within the bar, when they will take off their hats, and walk uncovered to their seats. They will then put on their hats, and remain sitting and covered during the conference—the Commons meanwhile standing and uncovered. It may be thought the Commons, having to stand uncovered whilst the Lords sit covered, have to submit to an indignity; but it must be remembered that the Commons have come to confer with the Lords in their own House, and that, when the Peers visit the House of Commons, they are obliged to take off their hats. The rule of the Lords in this matter is strict, but it is not cruelly rigorous; for there is an exception in favour of any infirm person. Such infirm person being allowed to sit; but only "by connivance, and in a corner out of sight, but not uncovered." The conference having assembled in proper form, a Lord—most likely the Lord Privy Seal—will rise, uncover, and take the paper on which is written the Commons' reasons from the manager selected to deliver it; and then will sit down, put on his hat, and read the reasons aloud. This done, and no discussion being allowed, the Lords will rise from their seats, take off their hats, and walk away uncovered; and thus the drama—surely very much like a farce—will end: the Lords going back to their House and the Commons to theirs. The Lords' managers having reported the Commons' reasons to the House, the House will proceed to consider whether it shall "insist" or "not insist" upon its amendments. It is probable that it will insist upon some and not insist upon others. In such case, my Lords will demand a conference—perhaps a free conference—at which the questions in dispute may be debated; and so the two Houses will go on considering and conferring until, by mutual concession, they shall have come to be agreed, or until it becomes clear that no agreement is possible. If this should happen—if the two Houses should finally disagree—the bill will be laid aside—lost, in fact. The *John Bull* says, however, that Earl Derby means to oppose the second reading. If this be true, its career will be very short. But I do not believe that his Lordship will adopt so reckless a policy.

Mr. Dawson Burns is in high spirits because the minority for the Permissive Bill was 87, whereas, in 1864, it was only 35; and, no doubt, if the minority goes on increasing at the rate of 52 every five years, in thirty years, or thereabouts, the Permissive Bill will pass the House of Commons and begin its career in the House of Lords. But there is small hope or fear of that. This year the general election under a democratic Reform Bill gave the cause a fillip. Some of the newspapers objected to a wide extension of the suffrage because the lower classes would, the able editors thought, support permissive bills; but, though the total abstainers pressed their candidates to pledge themselves to support the bill, few pledges were got; and though there has been widespread agitation—witness the number of petitions presented—and though every favourer of the bill was whipped up, whilst there was no whip on the other side, the minority is still small, only 87, out of 658 members. Nor were all the 87 very hearty in the cause. Some of them, it is well known, would not have voted for the bill if there

had been any danger of its being carried. "I hate the bill," said a member; "but my voting for it will please some of my fellows; and it can do no harm, for it will never be carried in my time." Mr. Dawson Burns thinks that many abstained from voting for the bill because the Home Secretary promised that the Government will do something more efficiently to regulate the supply of alcoholic drinks. I do not believe that. Whatever regulations the Government may propose will be, as everybody knows, wide as the poles asunder from a "permissive prohibitory bill;" and no members who look with favour upon such a measure would be caught by promise of a measure merely to regulate the sale of liquors. The simple fact is, the total abstainers made tremendous efforts to get the working men to vote for supporters of this bill, and agitated to get up petitions from all parts of the country, and this is the result—only eighty-seven men out of 658 could be got to vote for it.

There is no reason why learned Germans should be excluded from any posts in England for which they are fitted; but it certainly seems natural to prefer Englishmen for English places when they can be had. A contemporary, who is pretty widely echoed by the press, says:—"We see it announced that among the persons likely to succeed Dr. Hall in the librarianship of the Indian Office are Dr. Badger, Dr. Goldstickler, and Professor Rost. We should like to know why a German is to be thrust into such a post when we believe we have Englishmen among us whose claim to reward for their linguistic attainments have been most unfairly disregarded, although their knowledge of Oriental languages is equal, if not superior, to that possessed by any Germans here. One English gentleman we may mention as fitted to succeed Dr. Hall would be Mr. Charles Wells; and we trust the Duke of Argyll, in filling up Dr. Hall's vacancy, will consider his claims; for we can safely say that his proficiency in Oriental languages is not surpassed, if indeed it is equalled, by that of the most renowned German professors." If Mr. Wells were a Scotchman, he would be safe; but, as he is, I believe, a really astonishing linguist, it is by no means impossible that the Duke of Argyll, who is both a just and an acute man, may find him out.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

Mr. Mill is not letting the grass of his new leisure grow under his feet. A new book is almost, if not quite, ready from his hands. He has written twice in the *Fortnightly Review* within a month or two, and this time it is on Mr. Thornton's book upon "Labour and its Claims"—with more to come; so I wait for the end. The first chapter in Mr. Lecky's "History of Rationalism" gets well knocked about by Mr. John Morley; but, though the dialectical advantage remains with the latter, and though Mr. Lecky is undoubtedly a loose, unguarded (however eloquent and agreeable) writer, one cannot but feel that the two "sides" upon the question of the moral criterion have never yet come to a clear mutual understanding. Mr. Swinburne contributes a very interesting paper on the corruptions of Shelley's text. They are extremely numerous; nor are the poems as they stand free from other errors. For example, the plot or story of the "Revolt of Islam" contains a very curious mistake or confusion—I cannot describe it precisely, not having my Shelley at hand. Few people would think much could be made out of the "Philosophy of Etching;" but Mr. P. G. Hamerton will show those who like to consult him that blood is to be got out of a stone. It is a most interesting paper.

I begin a new paragraph—in order to catch attention as widely as possible—in which to say that no less an authority than Mr. George Meredith, the poet, reverses in the *Fortnightly* the critical verdict generally given upon Mr. Charles Merivale's translation of the "Iliad." I have not yet looked into the book, but the authority of a poet goes for so much in such a case that I should be strongly inclined to side with Mr. Meredith.

Macmillan also contains a paper on Mr. Lecky's book. I think I have already mentioned that the author of "John Halifax" has commenced her new story, "A Brave Lady," and that the prologue promises well. Mr. Henry Wreford—I have a vague idea that *Rev.* ought to go before the name, or is it only a fancy?—writing from Naples, gives a striking account of the recent fight there which ended in a legal decision that a Catholic priest might marry. Who would have expected to live to see this? Mr. Wreford affirms, on the basis of personal knowledge and observation, that from north to south, Italy is shaking off the incubrances of Medievalism; and he seems to think the chief thing she wants is letting alone.

In *Good Words for the Young*, I ought before now to have drawn attention to Mr. Henry Kingsley's good, but too wild, story of "The Boy in Grey;" and, certainly, I must say a warm word for the "Leith Pilot's Song," by "J. C.," and for "The Lady's Dream," by one of the authors of "Child World."

The Americans are a queer lot—"a great nation, sirree," but queer. In the *Broadway*, which is a good number, Mr. Newman Hall, in his account of President Lincoln's house, says that in one room is what he calls "a painful relic." Very painful, we should say. It is just a piece of the dress of Laura Keane, the actress, who rushed forward to support the shot President, and the silk is stained with his blood!

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

There are indications of a growing taste for more refinement in matters appertaining to burlesque. Not that the rough-and-tumble, happy-go-lucky burlesques of the Strand and Royalty are dying out, but co-existent with these, and in no way competing with them, there is a more graceful class of extravaganza, which seems to secure the attention of playgoers who do not admire the very broad treatment that popular stories are subjected to at the hands of the ladies and gentlemen who provide burlesque fun at the two houses I have mentioned. "Columbus; or, a New Pitch in a Merry Key," produced at the Gaiety, is a very good specimen of the more refined school of extravaganza. It is very neatly, and occasionally brilliantly, written by Mr. Alfred Thompson, a gentleman who has for some time been known as an accomplished artist and a clever litterateur, and who has recently added dramatic writing to his other two callings. Mr. Alfred Thompson is the adapter of "On the Cards," which enjoyed a three-months' run at this theatre, and also "An Eligible Villa," which was not so successful; but its non-success was owing to causes over which he had no control. His "Columbus" is a pleasant, sparkling piece, carefully written and brilliantly mounted. He adheres pretty closely to the received story of Columbus's discovery, allowing himself, however, the license of a romancer in dealing with the navigator's affection for a beautiful Queen of the Amazons, whose "fetch" (according to Mr. Thompson) appeared to him in a vision before he quitted Spain, and so tempted him on his voyage. A more gorgeously mounted extravaganza than "Columbus" has never been seen on the English stage. The stage, from first to last, is flooded with the blaze of armour, jewels, and sparkling accessories, and the ballet with which the piece concludes is unique in its magnificence. It is a pity that a piece so carefully written and so brilliantly mounted should be, nevertheless, so poorly acted. Miss Farren played Columbus with all her wonted vivacity, and did the fullest justice to her lines; but, with the exception of Miss Farren, Mr. Eldred, Mr. Robins, and Miss Tremaine, scarcely an actor or actress was clearly audible at the back of the stalls. It seems a pity that, while so much money was "going," a little more should not have been spent on artists who are really qualified to support Miss Farren. She is an admirable actress of burlesque, but in "Columbus" she is flint without steel. The music is exceedingly pretty and vivacious. It is principally French, and has been selected, for the most part, from the works of Hervé, Offenbach, and L'Huillier. A capital chorus does full justice to the music. The dresses (designed by the author) show great taste on his part; but I think the (apparently) chintz dresses of the chorus in the last two scenes might be improved.

Miss Edith Sandford, a young lady who comes to us from Russia with a great flourish of trumpets, made her appearance

at the SURREY last Monday, in the great American drama, "Firefly." Miss Edith Sandford's principal accomplishment is equestrianism, though she is also a reasonably good melodramatic actress and a writer of a song introduced into the piece and the composer of a piece of music, which is played on the harp between the acts, by Mr. Stratford. The piece is arrant nonsense, and is played with amusing exaggeration by most of the artists concerned. Mr. Edgar, however, played the part of a tyrannical French Colonel particularly well; and Mr. Voltaire, as a cockney Jew, and afterwards as an Arab Chieftain (two widely different characters) did full justice to his two parts. Mr. Mat Robson is an amusing low comedian. The piece deals with the adventures of an officer in her Majesty's Guards, who, being wrongfully suspected of a forgery which has been committed by his brother, enlists in the ranks of the French army in Algiers. In this humble capacity he is subjected to much outrageous insult at the hands of his cruel Colonel, and in a moment of exasperation he strikes his bullying officer, and is sentenced to be shot. How he is saved at the last moment by the regimental vivandière, and how she eventually rides through fire and flames to rescue a baby from a fiery death, I will not attempt to explain—indeed, I am not quite clear why the baby was set on fire at all. It is sufficient that Miss Sandford, who plays the vivandière, is evidently an accomplished horsewoman, and that her steed, "Etna," is wonderfully docile under maddening circumstances.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN arrived at Balmoral last Saturday afternoon. Her Majesty made a short stay at Aberdeen, where a number of ladies and gentlemen assembled at the railway station to greet the Royal party, and then proceeded by train to Ballater, from which point the journey was performed by posting, Balmoral Castle being reached at a quarter past two o'clock.

THE PRINCE OF WALES, before leaving Paris, invited the Prince Imperial to visit England, and the Emperor Napoleon accepted the invitation. So we are told.

THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH is about to build himself a villa on the Palatine Hill, at Rome. A site has been purchased from the King of Naples, the workmen have already commenced their labours, and in a short space of time the curiously significant fact may be witnessed of a residence for modern Gallic Royalty completed on precisely the same spot as that on which the palaces of the ancient Caesars once stood.

THE VISIT OF THE EMPRESS EUGENIE TO EGYPT in the ensuing autumn has been decided on, and her Majesty will be present at the inauguration of the Suez Canal.

THE QUEEN has announced her intention to set aside a portion of the profits of the sale of "Leaves from the Journal of Our Residence in the Highlands" for the purpose of founding bursaries at Aberdeen University, to be open to boys from schools in the neighbourhood of Balmoral.

THE VICEROY OF EGYPT left Alexandria on Monday for Europe. He is expected to reach England on June 22.

HER MAJESTY THE EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH has just forwarded, through the Imperial Ambassador his Excellency the Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne, a donation of 3000*fr.* to the French Hospital, Leicester-square.

PRESIDENT GRANT has appointed General Sickles to be the United States Minister to Spain, and has recalled Mr. Hale from Madrid.

HER MAJESTY has caused the Lieutenant-Governor of the Isle of Man to be informed of the satisfaction with which her Majesty regards the reception accorded to Prince Arthur on his recent visit to the island. The newspapers of the island say that the Queen is likely to visit her Manx subjects in August, and add that a baronetcy will probably be conferred upon the Lieutenant-Governor, and that Mr. Goldie Taubman, Speaker of the House of Keys, will receive the honour of knighthood.

MR. MOTLEY, the United States Minister to London, sailed from New York, on Wednesday, in the Cuba, for England.

MR. MARK LEMON (Editor of *Punch*) is about to give the London public a further opportunity of witnessing his remarkable reading of "Sir John Falstaff." He is to appear at the Gallery of Illustration on Monday, the 24th, and two following Mondays.

AN EDITOR in West Tennessee, says he would like to be the next census, because it will embrace 17,000,000 women.

MR. ALDERMAN LYONS, who received three letters threatening his life in consequence of his having called upon Mr. O'Sullivan to resign the majority of Cork, has been fixed upon by the Liberal party of the city for that office.

A MARRIAGE is talked of between Mrs. Abraham Lincoln and Count Schmitzville, Grand Chamberlain of the Duke of Baden.

BOSTON, U.S., is about to put up twenty drinking-fountains to aid the enforcement of the prohibitory liquor law.

MR. CHARLES MACIVER, of the Cunard Steam-ship Company, Liverpool, on Monday presented £1000 to the newly-formed institution at Liverpool for the training of the orphan children of seamen. This is in addition to a liberal donation already made by his firm.

A NEW ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, dedicated to St. Ignatius, has been erected at Sunbury-upon-Thames, and will be formally opened on Sunday (to-morrow) by Archbishop Manning.

DR. GIBSON, medical officer of St. Pancras workhouse infirmary, has resigned his appointment in consequence of the state of his health. The salary of the office has been £200 a year, with lodgings, rations, and washing, but the guardians have resolved to reduce the salary to £175 a year.

MR. GEORGE G. ADAMS, sculptor, of Sloane-street, has been selected to execute a marble statue of Dr. Hugh M'Nelle, Dean of Ripon, for the town of Liverpool.

CONSUL CAMERON has written a long letter, which occupies nearly two columns of the *Times*, defending himself against the charges, made in an article in the last number of the *Quarterly Review*, that he had, by his disobedience of orders in reopening negotiations with Theodore, and putting himself in that monarch's power, brought about "the Abyssinian difficulty."

MR. ROBERT WILCOX, of Melbourne, has prepared a model illustrative of a method invented by himself for using submerged guns for purposes of naval warfare, by running out a gun so as to project for a distance of 12 ft. from the vessel's side.

A MISSISSIPPI EDITOR AND JUSTICE OF THE PEACE married a couple in 1858, divorced them in 1860, married the man to another woman in 1861, married the woman to another man in 1862, and a few days ago he remarried the original couple.

THE ORDINARY MODE OF CHURNING IN CHILI is to put the milk in a skin—usually a dogskin—tie it to a donkey, mount a boy on him with a rope to his spurs about the length of the animal's ears, and then run him about four miles.

THE FLORA THEATRE, at Cologne, has been totally destroyed by a fire, which broke out just after the performance had been concluded. The catastrophe is supposed to be the work of an incendiary. The Grand Theatre was burnt to the ground a few months back.

A RATHER ALARMING RAILWAY COLLISION occurred, on Monday, at Stoke-on-Trent. The London and North-Western express-train from Manchester to London, when nearing the station, ran into an "escaped" carriage which had just been shunted from another train. This carriage was smashed to pieces; but, beyond a severe shaking and great alarm, it is believed that none of the numerous passengers in the express-train were much injured.

A FASTING GIRL AT ULVERSTON, who, it is said, has abstained from food since last October, has now commenced to both eat and talk. She has, according to report, been twenty-five weeks without any solid food passing her lips, and sixteen without having her lips even moistened.

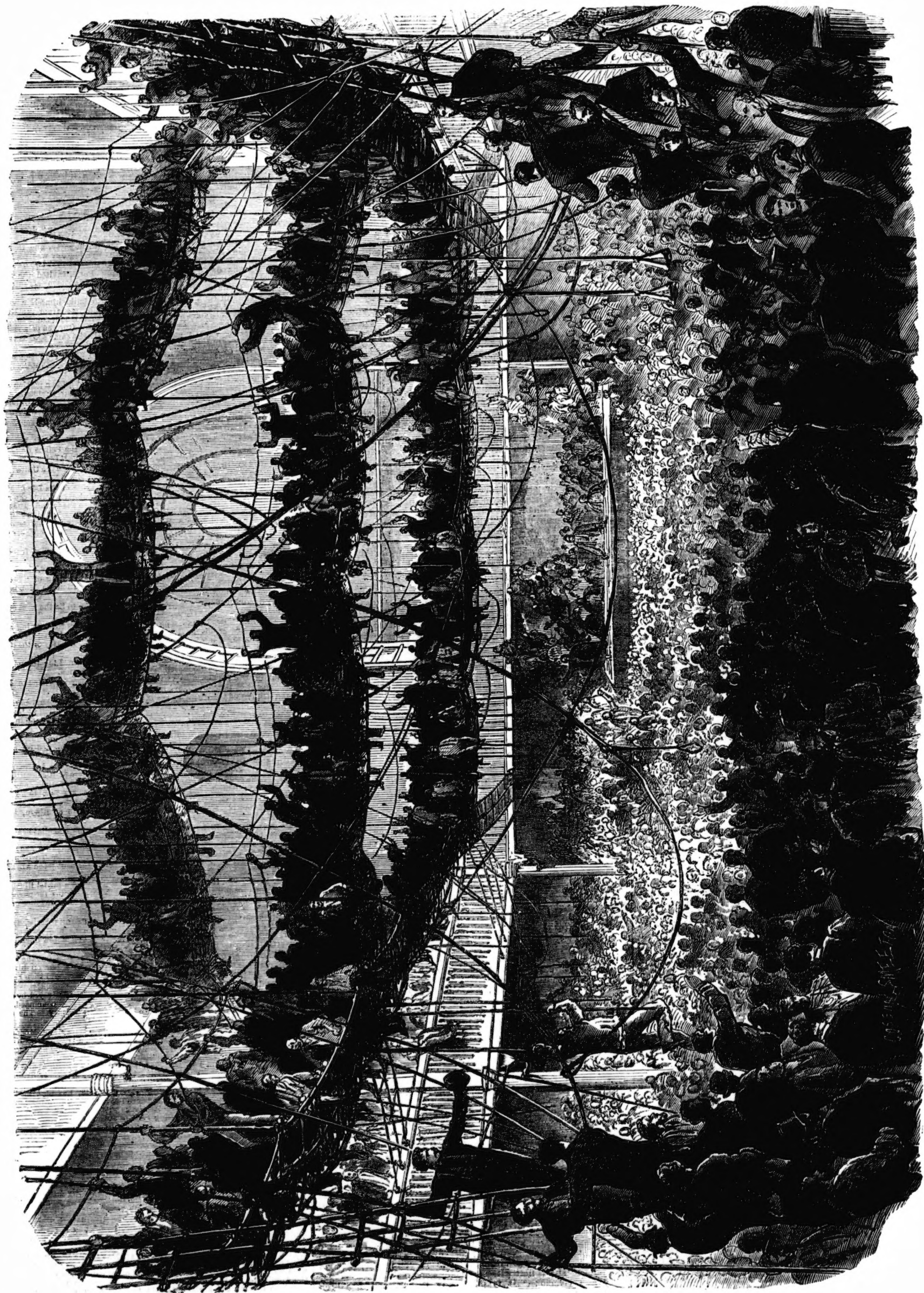
TWO VESSELS CAME INTO COLLISION off the Copeland, near Belfast, on Tuesday morning. The Lord Gough steamer struck the Marquis of Abercorn, cutting her down, and she at once began to fill. The passengers were saved, but 200 head of cattle which were on board the Marquis of Abercorn were lost.

THREE COTTON MILLS AT STOCKPORT narrowly escaped destruction by fire last Saturday night and Sunday morning. In at least two of these cases—if the *Manchester Guardian* has been accurately informed of the facts—it is impossible to believe that the outbreak was accidental. The third case also seems incapable of a satisfactory explanation.

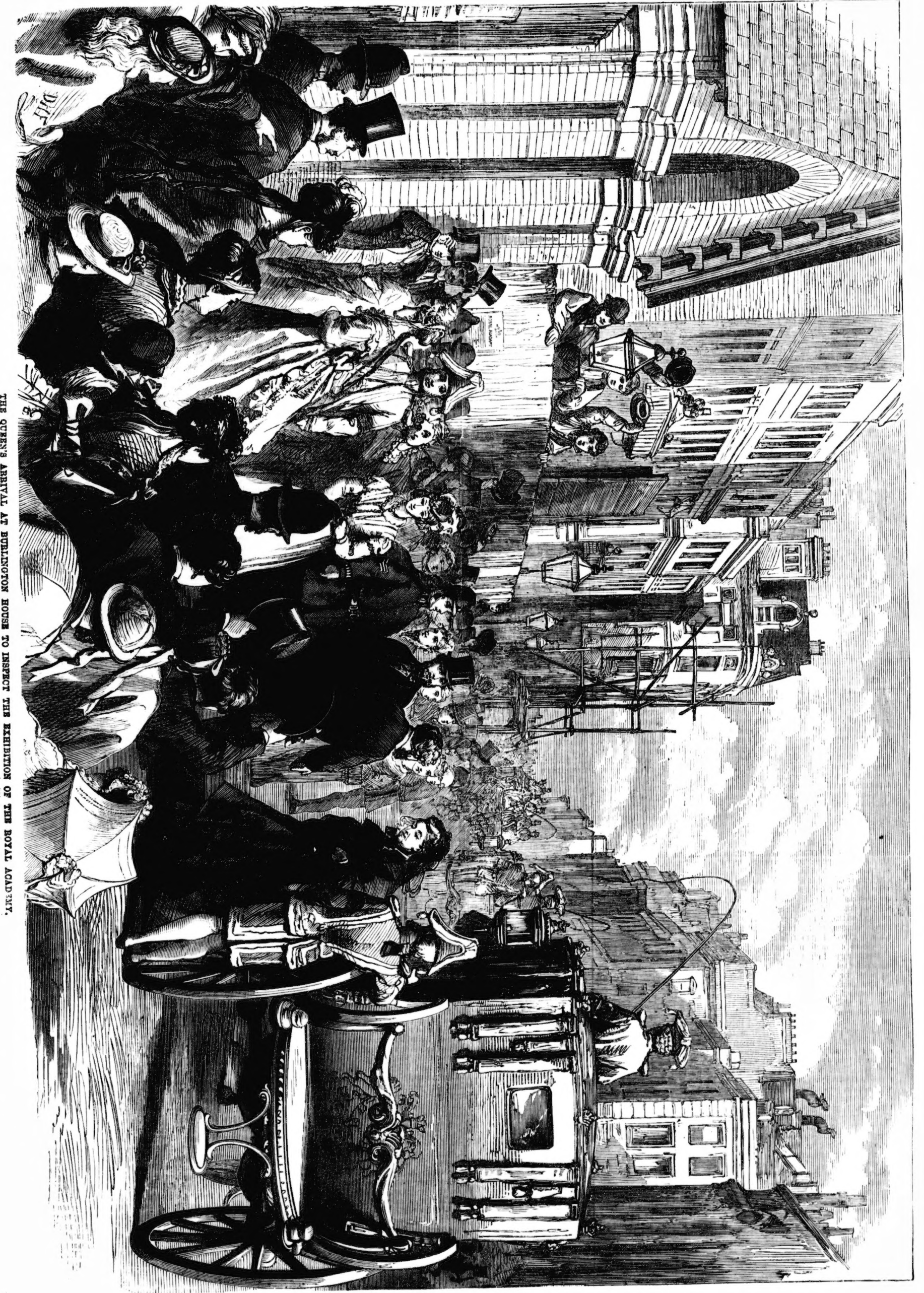
A SOUNDBRELLY ATTEMPT was made, on Saturday, to upset the mail-train running between Dublin and Belfast, by placing a stone, weighing 3 cwt., on the metals. Happily, the attempt did not succeed; but several passengers were severely shaken.

THE VESSELS COMPOSING THE ROYAL NAVAL RESERVE SQUADRON left Portland, last Saturday morning, and sailed westward. The Agincourt, with Mr. Childers, Sir Sidney Dacres, and other gentlemen connected with the Admiralty on board, led the van. The spectacle presented on the squadron leaving the harbour is said to have been very fine; but the atmosphere became hazy shortly after they left, and the vessels were soon out of sight of the shore.

CAPTAIN HUNT, of Boyton House, Wilts, objecting to have his liberty curtailed by the operation of a writ of capias, succeeding in ejecting a sheriff's officer from his house the other day, having first broken the nose of, and attempted to shoot, the process-server. The gallant Captain himself left Boyton immediately afterwards, and a warrant has been issued for his apprehension.



THE FRENCH ELECTIONS: MEETING IN THE TRIAT GYMNASIUM, PARIS.



THE QUEEN'S ARRIVAL AT BURLINGTON HOUSE TO INSPECT THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

THE ELECTIONS IN FRANCE.

THE electioneering campaign is now in full operation in France; and as at that particular epoch an unwonted degree of liberty of speech is allowed, the people, especially in Paris, are using the privilege to the utmost. But as, moreover, liberty of speech is a privilege to which Frenchmen have not been much accustomed of late years, they do not seem able to use it with entire discretion; and, consequently, some rather wild deliverances have been heard. Riots, too, have occurred, though not to any serious extent. On this last point one correspondent says:—"M. Emile Ollivier has had the great misfortune to be the cause of the first disorder in the streets which has occurred since the electoral meetings became lawful. Had he contented himself with going, without any fuss and parade, to the ordinary electoral meetings of his late constituents which were attended by his rival, M. Bancel, no disturbance would have taken place. But he must needs announce his public appearance with a great flourish of trumpets, and resort to means, in concert with the police, which were likely to produce irritation. One night lately a vast crowd was collected in front of the Châtelet Theatre by the announcement that M. Emile Ollivier would address a meeting at half-past eight, price of admission 50 centimes. An enormous force of police—some journals say as many as 1000—occupied the large open spaces about the theatre. The public were kept waiting at the doors for upwards of an hour beyond the appointed time, while members of the Ollivier party were privately admitted by a back staircase to pack the building. Only a very few of the real public were admitted at all, in squads of ten or a dozen at a time, and when M. Ollivier rose to speak the theatre was nothing like full, though thousands were waiting outside. In spite of all precautions, however, dissidents enough got in to make M. Ollivier's speech dumb show. He was understood to give an oral repetition of his pamphlet of Jan. 19, to say that he had done more for liberty in six years than anybody else in twenty, and to compare himself to Machiavelli, Lord Bacon, Daniel Manin, Cavour, General Prim, and many other celebrities. Before he had finished, the Commissary of Police in attendance declared the meeting dissolved, on the ground of 'tumult.' Meanwhile some of the crowd outside sang the Marseillaise, and shouted 'Vive Bancel!' and 'A bas Ollivier!' The police, who felt that they were called out for a field-day, showed much unnecessary activity in dispersing the crowds, and several broken heads and black eyes were the consequence. A good many people were arrested—the Public says as many as twenty—of whom ten were released next morning."

After this, further disturbances occurred, often springing out of very trivial causes, and leading to no more serious effects than those mentioned above. There is a general belief that the disorders were purposely provoked, and another correspondent, writing on Sunday, remarks on that head:—"The police were certainly to blame for the disorders which have already taken place, for in no instance did the populace go beyond singing the 'Marseillaise' and cheering the popular candidate till the police mustered in force, and then fighting commenced. Under these circumstances no one can doubt on which side the aggression commenced. M. Picard declared in a meeting the day before yesterday that the troubles had been incited by the police to bring democracy into dishonour. However this may be, a great many people in Paris have been in dread of a serious disturbance, knowing that nothing would be so likely to frighten the provinces into the arms of the Government as a riot in Paris. Last night and the night before passed over quietly, though in some quarters the streets till a late hour were crowded with police and peaceable inhabitants." More than twenty meetings were announced for Sunday, all of which passed off peaceably.

On the subject of the elections generally, the correspondent of the Times says:—

"What particularly strikes one who observes the battle now going on throughout the length and breadth of France is the dissension of political factions among themselves. This division pervades all parties, but it is especially observable in that which calls itself *par excellence* Democratic. M. Garnier-Pagès, Jules Favre, and others who have passed for extreme Liberals, are spoken of by their fellow-Democrats as *ci-devants*, as all but the mob were in the time of the Revolution; and others, still more advanced, who were proud at being thought imitators of Robespierre or St. Just, and who felt elated by the comparison, are treated as Moderates and valets of the 'Aristos.' For those who call themselves Conservative, no language is strong enough to express the hate of their opponents; but there is this difference, that these are attacked by their natural enemies, whereas the Democrats of moderate views, gentle manners, and soft voices—those of the Jules Simon class, for instance—are trampled upon by their own party. Of the Government having a considerable majority there is little doubt; of the minority it is not so easy to speak, either as to its number or its organisation. To judge from the press would be unsafe, for there is hardly a journal that does not announce as certain the success of the candidate whom it patronises, and, of course, the crushing defeat of his opponents."

"Political meetings are held from day to day in the different electoral divisions of Paris. Some of them are public; others private, for which special invitations are issued. In one of these 'conferences,' held in the theatre of the Châtelet, M. Emile Ollivier made his appearance. The crowd was great, and for two hours thousands of persons were unable to gain admittance. The arrangements made were bad, for there was still room in the hall at nine o'clock, and it was ten before the proceedings commenced. Those who had been kept waiting so long were in very bad humour, and as they had secured places early, were a good deal disposed against the speaker. Yet, with all these disadvantages, M. Ollivier gained ground with his audience; the hostile demonstrations were met by the applause of the majority, and for more than an hour he was able to give all the explanations desired."

"Some of these assemblages are very disorderly. At one held the evening before last in the famous Salle Valentino, where Socialist clubbists met under the Republic, and which has since been used as a ball-room, M. Devinck, a highly-respectable citizen, president of the Municipal Council and candidate for the second division, presented himself. Numerous questions were put to him as to his past and future conduct; but they were all put at the same time, and in such unmeasured terms that the chairman, a school-master, named Cousin, declared it was impossible to catch their meaning, that it was not possible to reproduce them, and that as the noise increased it devolved upon him as president to maintain order and discipline. The unlucky word 'discipline' raised indignation against the chair. M. Cousin apologised for having used the obnoxious word, and said all he meant to say was that the president was intrusted with the *police* of the meeting. This was worse than the other. The word '*police*' brought down a storm of wrath on the unfortunate chairman and on the candidate. As the tumult grew greater, in spite of all efforts to appease it, the Commissary of Police dissolved the meeting."

"In the Rue Vaugirard a meeting was also held the same evening. M. Cochin was the only candidate present. The two principal objections to this gentleman on the part of many of the electors are that he is a 'clerical,' on the part of others that he is a Governmental. In answer to divers questions on these points, he said that he was the advocate of absolute freedom of all religious and philosophical opinions. He was opposed, he said, to concordats in general, and was ready to accept the separation of Church and State, on the condition that the Church should share the advantage of the common law and be allowed to exist and administer itself. Moreover, if the interests of France would be served by the abandonment of the French occupation of the Roman States he would vote for the withdrawal of the troops who were now there to maintain the treaty of September; and that he was in favour of guarantees for securing the independence of the Holy Father without obliging France to employ her army in his defence. As for the 'Syllabus,' he contended that it only regarded his conscience; and that the electors had no right to call him to account for his religious belief, but only for his

political opinions and his acts as a citizen. M. Cochin was closely pressed as to the part he bore in the administration of the city of Paris as mayor of the 10th arrondissement, and as member of the Municipal Commission. He observed that it was the Republican Government of 1848 which had established the exceptional régime of a municipal administration named by the Executive; and that when elected deputy mayor in 1849 he had merely conformed to the law passed by the Republic. Subsequently, when experience proved the inconvenience of the system, he resigned, and since then had repeatedly demanded for the Parisians their right to elect the administrators of their city."

"At a meeting in the 3rd district Count d'Alton Shee, ex-Peer of France, and the Socialist candidate (in opposition to M. Thiers) declared that even if the Government accepted the whole of his programme he should still continue in opposition."

"M. Thiers declines presenting himself at public meetings. He attends, however, the private meetings held in the Rue Neuve des Petits Champs, for which special invitations are issued. He made a very effective speech there the other evening. His theme was 'personal government.' The consequences of the personal government now existing were the aggrandisement of Prussia and the establishment of a great military Power at the doors of France; the expedition to Mexico, and the attempt made to found a monarchy, which had so disastrous a close—disastrous to the unfortunate Prince who had been induced to make so hopeless an experiment; the ill feeling excited among the Americans by that step, which was undertaken at the moment when they were in their greatest difficulties; and the additional evil of bringing America into the politics of Europe, and particularly the Eastern question, on which five or six Powers had been unable to agree. Personal government was the cause of all; and it was no excuse to say that it was by personal government France had been saved. It was untrue that in her days of danger—in June, 1848, for instance—France was saved by any but by herself. There were about 300 persons assembled to hear M. Thiers, and their approbation was loudly and unanimously expressed. M. Thiers is also candidate for Poitiers, on the recommendation, it appears, of the Bishop of that town, the same Monseigneur Pie who wrote the famous letter in which the Emperor was designated as Pontius Pilate, and which brought down on the prelate the censure of the Council of State."

Our illustrations represent meetings in the Salle Mollière and in the Triat Gymnasium. The latter assemblage exhibited a rather novel aspect. The cords and hanging galleries, from which the exercises are practised, were taken possession of by large numbers of persons, who hung over the heads of their confrères below in a manner much more picturesque than pleasant, inasmuch as it seemed every moment likely that some unsteady wight might lose his hold and fall upon the heads of those beneath. Nothing unpleasant, however, occurred, and the position and antics of the parties on the ropes and galleries afforded no small amount of amusement."

THE QUEEN AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

HER Majesty the Queen paid a visit to the exhibition of the Royal Academy, at Burlington House, on Wednesday, May 12, on which occasion she was accompanied by the Prince of Wales, Prince Arthur, and Princesses Louisa and Beatrice. Her Majesty was received by Sir Francis Grant and the Fellows of the Royal Academy; and Mr. Sydney Smirke, R.A., the architect of the new buildings, was presented. Her Majesty and suite arrived about two o'clock, and remained a couple of hours inspecting the pictures in the various rooms. The general public were excluded during her Majesty's visit.

THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

THE association has announced its list of prizes, now extended to other branches of the services, for, in addition to the volunteers and all comers, to whom the shooting was thrown open, certain prizes have been offered, free, to competitors from the Army, Royal Marines, and to sailors from the training-ships of her Majesty's Navy. The prize-shooting at Wimbledon is divided into two classes, volunteer and all comers, and the arms, Government Enfields and "any," the latter term applying almost universally to small bores, fitted with peculiar sights for target shooting. The first prize is the Queen's, being given by her Majesty for competition among selected efficient volunteers, whose regiments have to pay for their entrance at the rate of £1 each. The place of representative at Wimbledon is given only after severe competitions, so that it may be considered that the men shooting for the Queen's are the best shots in England. There are two stages in this competition, the first at 200, 500, and 600 yards. The first man in this competition has a silver badge, a silver medal, and £60, and is best Enfield shot; then each of the next twenty-nine receives the badge of the association and £15 in money, and to each of the second thirty the badge and £10 in money are given. These form the "sixty," and are entitled to shoot for the second stage, where the great prize of a gold medal, the sum of £250, and the honour of being regarded as the champion shot of the country await the highest. To each of the ninety highest, after the first sixty, will be presented £3; thus making altogether 151 prizes, of the total value of £1315. The St. George's is the next volunteer prize of importance, the competitors being chosen in the same manner as those in the Queen's. The entrance-fee is half that in the Queen's, and the prizes amount in the aggregate to £623, and in number to sixty-one, including the first stage. The marksman's prize is the Martin challenge cup, so called in honour of Sir William Martin, who has rendered the association essential services. All marksmen this or last year may compete at 600 yards, with sighting shots, on the payment of 6s. The Prince of Wales's prize of £100 is competed for by the winners of county medals, and £100 is added by the association to be divided among the highest of the unsuccessful competitors. A new series of prizes has been instituted for the encouragement of non-winners, and called the Enfield nursery prizes. The competition is restricted to efficient volunteers who have won a prize at Wimbledon or any county meeting before this year. The entrance-fee is 6s., and the range is 500 yards. There are seventeen prizes, the highest being £10. The Belgian challenge cup, presented by the Chasseurs Éclairés of Brussels and the Belgians who visited Wimbledon in 1866, is competed for by squads of battalions in volley-firing, and the association adds £75, the first squad having £30, the second £20, the third £15, and the fourth £10. The competition will be at 400 yards, with five shots each squad. The cup will be held by the commanding officer of the first squad. There are other competitions added to the volunteer prizes, but these are of a peculiar character, being county tens for the China cup, the Irish international trophy, and the Oxford and Cambridge match. In the first, in the all comers' series, is the Albert, open to any rifle, with prizes amounting to £598, at entrance-fees of £3 3s. The Alexandra is an Enfield series, in which prizes amounting to £1000 are offered for the entrance-fee of £1 8s. for the whole, or 11s. for each range. The Windmill is another Enfield series, at 200 and 600 yards, in which £350 is offered, at an entrance-fee of 6s. for each range. There is also an any rifle nursery prize, for those who have not been winners in the Albert or any rifle series in other years. There are to be Swiss carton prizes, both for Enfield and any rifles, the entrance being 6d. a shot for the former and 1s. a shot for the latter. The prizes instituted out of the pockets of the association for the Army (including the Royal Marines) have been extended to the Navy. There may be two competitors from each regiment or battalion, either non-commissioned officers or privates, and ten sailors from each of her Majesty's training-ships. A challenge cup is given, value £100, as well as fifty-one money prizes amounting to £165, and no entrance-fee. A prize of £100 is given separately by an army officer to be shot for by the battalion which shall win it through their representatives twice consecutively or three years at intervals. There are, besides, the usual stand of matches, as

the Lords and Commons, the Public Schools, the Dudley, the Henry Peek. The Duke of Cambridge's breech-loading competition is announced, and it is pleasing to report that in this series there is a prospect of more prizes being given for the encouragement of so useful a competition than in previous years. Last year a few prizes of little value were offered to the hardworking competitors in addition to the Duke's £50, which is only shot for by winners in the first stage; but this year Mr. Cardwell has given £50, Lord Northwick has given £25, Mr. Bass, M.P., has given £50, and Messrs. Ely Brothers and Mr. Alexander Henry, the inventor of the Henry-Martini rifle, have given prizes."

THE IRISH CHURCH BILL.

THE Irish Church Bill has been reprinted, to show the amendments made in its passage through the House of Commons. It would have been very convenient if the amended passages and new clauses had been distinguished by a different type; but the usual course has been followed—a slovenly course it is—of leaving every reader to compare the amended bill with the original bill, and by that tedious process find out the changes made. The bill appears to have been extremely well drawn; but the best of bills is not perfect, and some few amendments have been introduced in order to express the meaning more clearly or more accurately; as, for instance, in clause 12, which transferred to the Commissioners of Church Temporalities all property belonging to any person holding a bishopric, preferment, &c., a clause now qualified by the introduction of the word "as" before "holding." The names of these Commissioners are, of course, now inserted—Lord Monck, Mr. Justice Lawson, Mr. G. A. Hamilton—and their salaries limited to £2000 a year. Clause 10, prohibiting future appointments to preferments by any person or corporation, is explained by adding, "by virtue of any right of patronage or power of appointment now existing;" and clause 13 has the new proviso that every present archbishop, bishop, and dean shall during his life enjoy the same title and precedence as if this bill had not passed.

Several amendments have been made in the clauses providing compensation for the staff of the Church. As regards persons holding preferment, their present net incomes are to be paid to them so long as they continue to discharge such duties as they were accustomed to discharge, or would, if this bill had not passed, have been liable to discharge, or any other spiritual duties in Ireland which may be substituted for them, with their consent and the consent of the representative body of the Church, or, if not discharging such duties, shall be disabled from doing so by age, sickness, or permanent infirmity, or by any cause other than their own wilful default. Their net income is ascertained by deduction of taxes (except income tax) and other legal outgoings, including salaries of permanent curates; but it is now added that the Commissioners shall determine the cases in which a curate is to be deemed a permanent curate, having regard to length of service, needful duties, non-residence or incapacity of the incumbent, or his habitual employment of a curate, after hearing objections; and this deduction is to cease if the salary of the curate ceases. Permanent curates are to receive their incomes from the Commissioners unless, owing to the curate's misconduct, without the incumbent's consent, he quits the curacy, or by ill-health or otherwise becomes incapable of discharging the duties. Curates not entitled to compensation as permanent curates may be paid a gratuity equal to £25 for every year of service, the total to be not less than £200 nor more than £600. The compensation annuities to diocesan or district schoolmasters, clerks, and sextons are to be payable to them so long as they continue to perform the duties of their office, personally or by sufficient deputy, in the same school or church, or any duties of the same kind which shall be assigned to them by the representative body of the Church. Sundry other provisions are to have a year's salary by way of gratuity; and these persons, and organists, vergers, &c., are to have further compensation if deprived of income derived from any property or fund which passes to the Commissioners under this bill.

Passing on to the clauses relating to churches and ecclesiastical residences, we find the clause omitted which allowed the Commissioners to contribute towards the maintenance of twelve churches deserving of being maintained as national monuments, but being of a size beyond the means of the congregation to keep in repair; and in regard to the churches in use, and to be handed over to the representative body, that body is not to be required to state its willingness to maintain them in good repair. Churches built at the private expense of any persons and not taken by the representative body are to be vested in such person, if living, or in his representatives if he died (not within twenty-five years, but) since the year 1800. The clause relating to burial-grounds connected with churches vested in the representative body has been altered, and the first part of it is made to apply only "where the church has a burial-ground annexed or adjacent thereto, but not separated therefrom by any public highway, or that has been granted by a private donor to, or exclusively used by, the parishioners attending the said church;" in such cases the burial-ground is to be included with the church in the Commissioners' vesting order, or, at the option of the representative body, be vested in the poor-law guardians as a burial board, subject to a right of way to the church, and in this case there is to be no funeral during the ordinary service time at the church, and the paths to the church and the gates and fences are to be kept in repair by the guardians. The representative body of the Church are to be allowed to purchase ecclesiastical residences where there is a building charge at ten (not twelve) years' purchase of the annual value as estimated by the general tenement valuation. The clause allowing the Commissioners to vest a certain limited further portion of land in the representative body, along with an ecclesiastical residence, is extended by a proviso that, if they are of opinion that an additional quantity of land should be granted for the convenient enjoyment of the residence, or to avoid a severance, they are to vest such additional land in the representative body, the price to be settled by arbitration, if necessary. The clause allowing the representative Church body to claim the transfer to them of private endowments given since 1660 provides that, if no such claim is made, the Commissioners, on application, are to vest such endowment in the donor, if alive, or his representative if he died (not within the last twenty-five years, but) since 1800; and where any person has at his own cost recovered by legal proceedings, for the benefit of the Church, property which will remain at the disposal of the Commissioners, they may pay him such sum as they may think fair and just. On the sale of tithe rent-charge to the landowner for a price payable by instalments, the annual payments must not extend over more than fifty-two years, the annual sum to be calculated at £4 9s. per cent on the purchase-money, less the average amount of poor rates.

The Regium Donum clauses follow. Compensation is provided for the ministers of the nonconforming congregations now fulfilling the conditions necessary for eventually obtaining a share in the grant. The clause providing compensation annuities for the Belfast theological professors is omitted, and their case is included in the Maynooth clause, which gives a capital sum of fourteen times the annual payment withdrawn by this bill. So also are some compensations payable to widows' funds. The Maynooth compensation is to be calculated on the sum paid in the financial year 1868-9; the other compensations in this clause are on "the annual sums." The compensation clause relating to vicars-general, registrars, &c., is extended to auditors, deputy registrars (at the expense of the registrar), and clerks of five years' standing in the registries; and there is or may be a special compensation to the Chancellor and Prebendaries of Christ Church, Dublin, for loss of right of succession to certain benefices. A clause provides that all commutation moneys paid under this bill in lieu of annuities shall be calculated at the rate of 3½ per cent per annum. Where the Commissioners sell land, and leave part of the purchase-money on mortgage at 4 per cent, the payments are not to extend beyond sixty-four half-yearly instalments. Where they sell through the

London Estates Court, rights of pre-emption declared in this bill are to be, as far as possible, preserved in the court. New clauses give the Commissioners power to raise money for carrying into effect the provisions of this bill, and the Treasury may lend, or may guarantee repayment of a loan.

A new clause, section 61, provides that all plate, furniture, and movable chattels of a church, or used in connection with Divine service therein, are to vest in the representative Church body, and movable chattels held by an ecclesiastical person in his corporate right, subject to his life enjoyment of them; and where property is vested in an ecclesiastical corporation in trust for the poor, or any other charitable purpose, the dissolution of the corporation is not to affect the continuance of the trust, but the property is to vest in the representative body of the Church, subject to the trusts; and where ecclesiastical persons are entitled *virtute officii* to be members of lay corporations for the management of any private endowment, or are trustees for the management of property belonging to institutions of private endowment for purposes not ecclesiastical, persons hereafter discharging analogous duties are to succeed in the place of these ecclesiastical persons. The clause containing provisions for appointments to be now made before 1871 has a proviso added to it, that if the owner of any archbishopric, &c., be appointed to fill a vacancy in any other he shall, notwithstanding such appointment, retain all such life interest, rights, and privileges to which he would have been entitled if he had not accepted such appointment. These are all the material alterations made in the bill. It extends now to seventy-one clauses.

FRESH SOULS!

Yes, "Fine fresh souls!" for what but a basket of souls are the parishes to be disposed of in the following advertisements cut from the *Times* on our breakfast-table? and what but a Billingsgate must be the auction marts where they are sold?

Adwoson.—For sale, a Rectory, beautifully situated in the Vale of Aylesbury, within three miles of a railway station; good house, garden, and outbuildings. Income upwards of £300. Full particulars can be obtained of Messrs. Maynard, Son, and Co., 57, Coleman-street, London; or of J. James, Esq., Aylesbury.

Adwoson.—For sale, a Rectory, well situated, within a short distance of London. Pretty church (chancel restored), good schools, light duty, pleasant neighbourhood. Net income from the communion and glebe about £450 a year, exclusive of very good residence, offices, gardens, &c., all in first-rate order. Immediate legal possession. Price moderate. Principals are referred to Mr. W. Emery Stark, 27, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C. (No. 1631.)

Valuable London Preferment.—A clergyman, of fair pulpit ability, required, in the west end of town. Good income, with prospect of considerable increase. Important social position (if desired). No parochial charge. Principals only, who can command some £7000 or £8000, and do not object to pew rents, are referred to (personally preferred) Mr. W. Emery Stark, 27, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C. (No. 1640.)

Adwoson.—For sale, a Rectory, situated in a delightful part of Gloucestershire, affording good society and light duty. Net income from the communion and glebe about £400 a year, exclusive of very good residence, with suitable offices and garden. Good towns close at hand. Immediate legal possession. Principals or their solicitors are referred to Mr. W. Emery Stark, 27, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C. (No. 1641.)

How charming the sketch of a "Valuable London Preferment!" Who cannot fancy the juvenile Bellow seeking his "important social position," and working up his "good income, with prospect of considerable increase," by marriage. Then "no parochial charge;" there's honesty! This is "doing your duty in that state of life," &c. The command of £7000 or £8000 (as if the difference were of indifferent consideration), and "no objection to pew rents," are just like the invitation to investment in a theatrical speculation.

Is this the Apostolic Christianity we are so anxious to restore? "Good house, garden, and £500 a year," with the advantage of a railway station within three miles to run up to London for diversion. "A pretty church" with—by way of sop to Ritualistic purchasers—"chancel restored;" "light duty and pleasant neighbourhood," and £430 a year, "with garden in first-rate order." There are, last, with their "good society and light duty" and £400 a year, "good towns" (for whist-parties, we presume) "close at hand." These are temptations to our modern apostles, and this is the way we are to be herded into heaven by strange and careless shepherds. Shall we, then, complain while these things go on, if some great religious reformer of the wrongs of Christian Englishmen should rise, who might insist that the tithes we pay to our Church be properly appropriated; that we shall not be sold like brute beasts, or that no longer shall be heard in the market of the Church the cry of FINE FRESH SOULS!—*Echoes.*

THE ACADEMY OF THE FINE ARTS IN PARIS has elected M. Fédien David to the place left vacant in the section of Musical Composition by the death of M. Berlioz.

THUNDERSTORMS.—A rather violent storm of thunder and lightning occurred at one o'clock on Wednesday. Some of the flashes of lightning were very vivid, and the thunder followed instantaneously. In some parts of town there was a considerable fall of hail. The storm lasted only about twenty minutes, but the afternoon continued showery. A thunderstorm burst over Halifax between one and two o'clock on Tuesday. The electric fluid struck several places. The principal damage is at the large new cotton-mill in course of erection, at the upper side of the Halifax workhouse, by Mr. S. Whitley. The mill chimney, which had been erected to the height of 14 yards, was struck on the top and shattered to the bottom, and other damage was done.

THE OASTLER MEMORIAL.—The monument to Mr. Richard Oastler at Bradford was unveiled last Saturday by Lord Shaftesbury. Every factory district of Yorkshire and Lancashire is said to have been represented in the crowd of 100,000 persons who filled the streets. A procession of 30,000 persons was formed, and marched from the town to Peel Park, about a mile distant, where an address was presented to Lord Shaftesbury expressing the gratitude of the working people of the manufacturing districts to his Lordship for his labours to secure the adoption of the Ten Hours Bill. Lord Shaftesbury having replied, the procession was re-formed and returned to the town, and Lord Shaftesbury formally unveiled the statue, which stands in front of the Midland Railway station. Addresses were then delivered by Mr. Forster, M.P.; Mr. W. Ferrand; and Mr. E. Miall, M.P., after which the crowd dispersed. In the evening a public meeting was held in St. George's Hall—under the presidency of the Mayor—when addresses were delivered by Lord Shaftesbury; Lord F. C. Cavendish, M.P.; Mr. W. E. Forster, Mr. E. Miall, M.P.; Mr. E. Wheelhouse, M.P.; Mr. A. Hingworth, M.P., and others.

IRISH AGRARIAN CRIME.—Archbishop Leahy has issued a long pastoral on the outrages in Tipperary. He expresses his horror of the crimes, exhorts the people to forbearance, and laments that a few desperadoes, acting singly and without accomplices, should tarnish the fame of Tipperary. He attributes the antipathy of tenant against landlord to the too-long protracted settlement of the land question. He emphatically denies the existence of an agrarian conspiracy, and says it could not exist without the knowledge of the Catholic clergy, and they have no knowledge of any such thing. The non-detection of crime proves there is no conspiracy. It is all a myth. He denies that promises of any change in the land laws by Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Bright have had anything to do with the murders. Such as may be accounted agrarian he ascribes partly to the unhappy relations between landlords and tenants, partly to the traditions of intestine warfare between the two classes, and the late unusual outbreaks of murders to the affair at Ballicoyne. He thinks the expectations of a settlement, so far from increasing, would diminish them. He bids the tenant to look with hope to the Imperial Legislature, and points out the danger of the people of England being disgusted and estranged by these outrages.

CHARACTER OF A PRINCE.—The following "certificate" of the progress made by the present Emperor Louis Napoleon in 1821-2, when he was a boy at the College of St. Anne, at Augsburg, will be read with interest:—"No. 21. Prince Charles Louis Napoleon, son of the Duc de St. Leu, of Rome; born at Paris; belonging to the Catholic religion; aged fourteen years and five months. He is gifted with many good qualities. In the years of development of which he has laboured with much zeal. He has made good progress in the German language, in Latin, and in arithmetic; pretty good progress in French and in history; in general, therefore, considerable progress. His quiet manner towards his fellow-pupils is deserving of all praise, as also is the respect and gratefulness with which he has accepted even disagreeable tasks. He has the twenty-fourth place; the difficulties of the German language, of which he is not yet master, have prevented him from obtaining a higher rank. Besides, he is publicly commended, and he can pass into a superior class." The certificate for the previous six months is much the same; but to it is added a remark to the effect that "this pupil possesses an ardent feeling for all that is elevated, good, and beautiful; and he would have made great progress if illness had not several times prevented him from attending the class."

Literature.

The Life of Rossini. By H. SUTHERLAND EDWARDS. In one volume. London: Hurst and Blackett.

Rossini himself could scarcely have desired a better biographer than Mr. Sutherland Edwards; for, we gather from these pages, Rossini was just as well contented with justice as with mere praise; and, whilst he would not tamely put up with public disapprobation when he knew it to be wrong, he would have welcomed such sound and graceful criticism as is given here. As biographer, by-the-way, Mr. Edwards would be almost literally "nothing unless critical;" for Rossini was mixed up with music all his life, and, save that he was born, married twice, and died after having left Italy for France and just paid a visit to England, there are no more facts but a list of successes and failures, which is scarcely likely to satisfy the student who wants to get into the real heart of a man's life. With Rossini nothing of the kind is possible, although there are flashes of character here and there which must be strongly recommended to the admirers of human nature as specimens of the "eccentricities of genius"—we mean such passages as relate to Rossini's astonishing amount of extraordinary common-sense! And, moreover, Rossini was a sayer of excellent things, and these *mots* sparkle along the pages and light up the more business-like lines.

Gioacchino Antonio Rossini was born on March 29, 1792, two months after the death of Mozart. Like Mozart, he was musical from the very beginning, for at the age of seven (there is a typographical blunder at the first page of chap. i.) he sustained the child's part in Paer's "Camilla," when produced at Bologna. The early incidents are Italian enough, as might be expected from the critical period of history. The father of Rossini was "herald and town crier to the sound of the trumpet;" but, despite this "appointment under Government"—or rather anarchy—he sympathized with the French, and the prison was his doom. In this dilemma the clever mother was able to assist, and to turn to good account, her more than clever son. But the early experiences are summed up in two or three pages, and it is enough to say that, at the age of sixteen, after some miscellaneous teaching and one year of the Bologna Lyceum, he produced his first work, a cantata, and the foundation of a success was at once firmly made. His first performance of 1808 must "give us pause;" for Rossini wrote fifty-four pieces altogether, the last being the "Messe Solennelle," 1866; and it is clear that the book, rather than our columns, must be consulted for the fortunes of these known and unknown works. The real career finished in 1829, with "Guillaume Tell," when Rossini was only thirty-seven years of age; but his fame had been achieved long before that. Mr. Edwards properly says that the life naturally divides itself into three parts—the Italian, terminating with "Semiramide," in 1823; the French, with "William Tell," as just stated; and the many, many years only just finished, which certainly saw the "Stabat Mater" and some other pieces, but which were spent in tranquil ease, with all the rare enjoyments of life, of friendship, and of something approaching respectful homage from the whole world.

Rossini will be known to all ages for his great musical reforms. For this, "Tancredi" is remarkable. It is more lyrical and less declamatory than was the fashion, and it led the way to changing the fashion permanently. The bass, hitherto reserved for operatic comedy or farce, was also made to take its proper place in opera serio; whilst his reforms in writing for the voice equally astonished his contemporaries. Indeed, his innovations were so sweeping, that not only did he sweep the piano from the orchestra, but he discovered the glorious advantages of brass instruments in large numbers; and once, as a youthful joke, "in one movement the musicians, at the beginning of each bar, had to strike the tin shades of the candles in front of them." Unfortunately for Rossini, however, there have been musical reforms since, which did not avail him in those days. Although most popular, he was miserably paid, and as music had no "rights," he could not realise the enormous sums which publishers pay to composers at the present time. But yet this had a kind of advantage; for, as he made many failures, he could take the best out of one piece and make it a success elsewhere. Rossini was capable of treating his works much as Sir Freilich Plagiary said the managers treated the tragedies and comedies; and one of his overtures has been known to do duty for no less than three operas. It was only when he went to Naples that he made a decent livelihood, under Barbaja, and was subsequently enabled to marry the celebrated prima donna, Mlle. Colbran. His fortune was made in England and in France; but "The Barber of Seville" must be credited with the foundation of it. It was a dead failure at first, like "Don Giovanni." Every accident happened to it on the first night, even to a stray cat getting mixed up with the performers. But how different were the two composers! Mozart was not surprised at the failure: he "only wrote the 'Don' for himself and a few friends!" But when the curtain went down on the "Barber," and the hissing was at its height, Rossini, who conducted the orchestra, turned to the public, shrugged his shoulders, and began to applaud! Of course, the failure could not last long. From this time a series of such brilliant successes as "Otello," "Cenerentola," "Donna del Lago," "Semiramide," &c., mixed up with much that is forgotten, make up and complete Rossini's Italian career. The French period comprises the "Siege of Coriath," "Mosé," "Le Comte Ory," and "William Tell;" and with that outline the book will certainly make its way with the musical public—and who is not musical? The pages regarding Rossini are marked by some passages about George IV., which are highly creditable to the King; and the state of the opera in England, based on Mr. Ebers's "Recollections," will be read with interest and astonishment. One thing may be said, Rossini did not know what money meant until he visited our shores. He made a fortune not only by creating a public taste and by being successful, but by being business-like as well. And yet he was not covetous of money. Carelessness almost to indifference was mixed with self-reliance, and genius hovered over both. In truth, a strange and interesting character.

A pleasing portrait, dated 1820, accompanies the volume. How it contrasts with M. Doré's painting—the vacant, placid head on the pillow, in the New Bond-street Gallery!

Salts and Senna: a Cathartic, in Seven Doses. London: W. Freeman.

The anonymous author of this volume, which is written in Hudibrastic measure, may be congratulated on having succeeded in two things—not very difficult things, but things for which some people have a passion—jingle and abuse. The doses are divided into Moral, Literary, Educational, Dramatic, Political, Religious, and Theological; and it is hard indeed if any living man cannot find himself defamed to all eternity in one or other of these sections. Or, if there should be a few exceptions, they are to be found in the author himself and his friends, amongst whom, from the "theological dose," will probably be found one or two prominent members of the defunct Reform League. In fact, there are some opinions put forth as moral and religious which seem to us to bear a different interpretation, only it is hard to say a word against honest people who would hold any opinions rather than follow those of others, and who yet deliberately try to make converts, and use for weapons of persuasion coarse abuse instead of sound argument. The abuse, great and small, is neither new nor just; but we are bound to acknowledge considerable literary merit.

Chambers's Miscellany of Useful and Entertaining Tracts. London and Edinburgh: W. and A. Chambers.

It is but a trite thing to say that among those who have laboured most diligently and most successfully to provide wholesome literature for the people, none have been more diligent or more successful than the Messrs. Chambers; but, though trite, it is

true. From the days of the first number of the *Journal* until now, they have been foremost in the ranks of popular educators; and, much as they have published, it may safely be said that they have never issued anything that had not good elements in it. Perhaps not the least valuable of Messrs. Chambers's publications are their "Useful and Entertaining Tracts," first begun in 1811, and now in course of re-issue in penny weekly numbers, monthly fivepenny parts, and occasional shilling volumes. This, however, is not a mere re-issue; it would, perhaps, be more correct to call it a new series, for numerous fresh papers are introduced, and each number contains one or more wood-engravings, designed either for embellishment or for illustration of the subject. As in the original issue, the matter of the tracts consists of a mixture of the instructive and the entertaining; and as the fresh papers are in every respect of as superior a character as were those of the original issue, we doubt not that the new edition—or series, whichever it may be called—will be as popular and as widely read as the "Useful and Entertaining Tracts" were when first given to the world. We wish Messrs. Chambers every success—we know they deserve it—in this as in other undertakings.

Hebrew Heroes, and The Golden Fleece. By A. L. O. E. London: T. Nelson and Sons.

To that numerous class of readers whose piety is nurtured and sustained by stories the characters in which use scriptural language, and who live, move, and have their shadowy being amidst the cities and scenes of sacred history, "Hebrew Heroes" will no doubt be very acceptable. There is, however, in all such stories a tendency to lower the lofty impressions of Bible lore by the unavoidable association of the ordinary and commonplace with the sublime. Although Judas Maccabeus is the ostensible hero of this book, the story of the loves of a Jewish maiden and a noble Grecian is, after all, the most interesting part of the business; the love-making being carried on in much the same tone and spirit as two loving members of Mr. Spurgeon's congregation would affect were they designed to enliven the sober hours of their courtship by biblical exercises ranging from the loss of Paradise to the conquests of King David. Zarah is the name of the maid, and Lycidas that of her Pagan lover. "The Athenian had an innate love of the pure and true, which made him intuitively reject fables, and which amongst his countrymen exposed him to the charge of scepticism. Lycidas could laugh with Aristophanes at legends of gods and demigods." Had Lycidas reared an altar, it would have been like that which was seen, two centuries later, in his native city, with the inscription, "To the unknown God." The lover being in this state of mind, Zarah soon converts him. He proposes marriage. She consents, but gently informs him that she is not quite sure that she is not betrothed to Judas Maccabeus. After this disclosure, the loving pair start on a night journey in order to escape certain enemies, for whose deadly animosity there certainly does not seem adequate reason. An accident, however, takes place, conveniently close to the village of Bethlehem, which enables the author to put sentiments into Zarah's mouth concerning the Messiah that, although out of keeping with the time and circumstances, answer the evident end for which the book was composed.

"The Golden Fleece," a much less ambitious production, is not to be enjoyed except the reader can sympathize with a set of very feeble characters, one of whom, entitled Sir Patrick Macaw, "lives a quiet life of obscurity, under the shadow of his wife," his lady herself not being distinguished by any particular qualities beyond the ordinary desire of an elderly female to domineer over young people. The motto of "The Golden Fleece" is thoroughly sound, and the illustrative woodcuts are admirable. The motto runs thus:—

Our good deeds must be judged—and few will bear the trial—
By our purity of motive and strength of self-denial.

Lord Harrie and Leila: A Romance of the Isle of Wight; and other Poems. By GEORGE HENRY HELLON. London: Provost and Co. (successors to A. W. Bennett).

Oh, Isle of Wight, oh, Isle of Wight,
Thou home of beauty, land of song;
Lovely by day, serene by night,
Thy scenes to other climes belong.
Thou'rt England's Eden—southern star—
Home of Lord Harrie and Leila!

The above lines serve as a prelude to nearly 300 pages of similar melody, which rises and falls according to the mood of the poet, sometimes rivaling the best flights of his tuneful brother of Westmorland, whose name is Close, but for the most part sinking to depths of absurdity which we should fancy "The Poet Close" never dreamt of sounding, even in his most desperate moments. Take a specimen:—

Oh, woman, lovely woman, I have found the moss
Upon thy bosom hiding a false beach;
Many have fallen o'er that sad emboss—
Thou'rt gold and silver, yet alas!
Thou art alloyed with dross.

In this manner the poet Hellon gambols through nine cantos in celebration of Lord Harrie and Leila; but, if anyone imagines that this marvellous exhibition of long-sustained bathos has run the fountain of his folly dry, let the following, selected at random from the minor poems, bear witness to the contrary:—

ODE TO A BROOK.

O! how I love thy rippling
And bright transparency;
O! how I love thy dimpling
And border'd livery;
Thy shady nook and gurgling crook,—
Flow on, flow on, O merry Brook.

O! how I love thy circling
In silent secrecy;
O! how I love thy shambling
And meetings binary;
Thy shady nook and gurgling crook,—
Flow on, flow on, O merry Brook.

O! how I love thy rocking
And cradling infancy;
O! how I love thy trifling
And prattling babery;
Thy shady nook and gurgling crook,—
Flow on, flow on, O merry Brook.

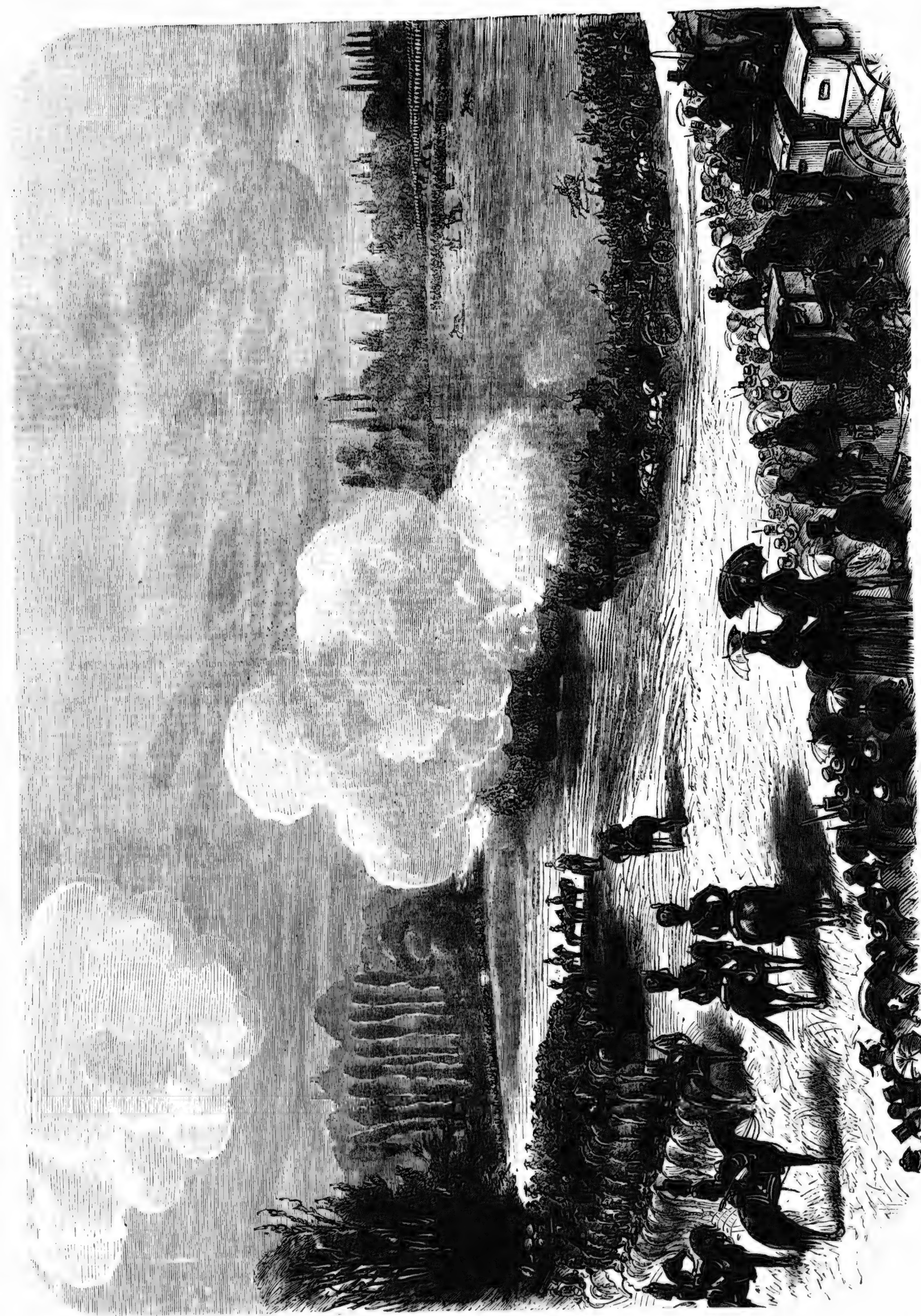
O! how I love thy shelving
And ardent cogeny;
O! how I love thy darkling
And life when lunary;
Thy shady nook and gurgling crook,—
Flow on, flow on, O merry Brook.

Juvenile Songs Set to Music. By T. CRAMPTON. London: F. Pitman.

Of nice convenient size for the pianoforte music-holder, prettily bound, with its comic little frontispiece—a group of frogs dancing by moonlight—this volume of juvenile songs is just the thing for merry little boys and girls when mamma has a minute to spare for amusement. There's "Little Boy Blue," "Old Mother Hubbard," "Little Jack Horner," and all the old nursery favourites cleverly set to music, not one of them beyond the compass of any ordinary little voice, and all of them full of innocent fun.

Moxon's Minor Poets. Selected by EMMA LADY WOOD. London: Moxon.

This is a handsome volume, of small size, containing a selection of short pieces, the production of the best-known minor poets of England and America. The book is nicely printed and bound, and will make an agreeable ornament to the drawing-room table. The selections themselves are judiciously made; but the great majority of them are already familiar to all readers of modern English poetry.



CAVALRY REVIEW IN THE TRAINING-GROUND OF THE BOIS DE BOULOGNE, PARIS, IN HONOUR OF THE PRINCE OF WALES.

REVIEW IN PARIS IN HONOUR OF THE PRINCE OF WALES.

THE Emperor, among his many other attentions to the Prince of Wales during the latter's recent visit to the French capital, gratified him with the spectacle of a grand review of cavalry and artillery, in the training-ground of the Bois de Boulogne, near the Marquis of Hertford's Château Bagatelle. The entire cavalry garrison of Paris and Versailles, consisting of eight regiments and two batteries of artillery, were on the ground. It was remarked that seldom had so few people been seen at a review in Paris; and this was all the better for those who were there, as everybody could see without difficulty, instead of being pushed back by tremendous crowds altogether out of sight, or forced to climb up trees, as was the case when a review (it must be said, of a much larger number of troops) was given in honour of the Czar and the King of Prussia. Heirs-Apparent do not draw so much as reigning Sovereigns; and, although this review was very well advertised in the papers, not above 500 people went from Paris on purpose to see it. The spectators consisted of members of the fashionable world in carriages (who, while taking their ordinary drive in the Bois de Boulogne, heard that a review was going on), of official personages, and a very thin line of foot people, among whom were none of the lower classes. The Guides, Chasseurs, Cuirassiers, and Artillery, drawn up in long grass, verdant from recent rains, and reaching in some places almost to the knees of the horses, presented a most picturesque appearance. The weather was threatening, and the black clouds no doubt account in great measure for the sparse attendance of spectators. But the rain,

which might be felt in the air, did not come down, and before the review was over the sun gained the mastery in the sky. The breeze was all the time soft and delightful. At three o'clock the Emperor appeared on the ground, escorted by the Cent Gardes and the usual "brilliant staff." The Prince of Wales, in his uniform of Colonel of the 10th Hussars, rode on his right hand, and the Archduke Victor, brother of the Emperor of Austria, in a white uniform, with a green plume in his cocked hat, on the left. They were all three mounted on horses from the Imperial stables of a light chestnut colour, with scarcely a variety of shade. The Prince of Wales looked extremely well, and much bronzed from his Eastern trip. He wears more beard than when he was last here. The Prince Imperial, in his sergeant-major's uniform, rode a neat brown cob by the side of the Prince of Wales. The Empress, who appeared on the ground in an open carriage, and was dressed in a riding-habit, got on horseback after the inspection, and was with the Emperor and his guests during the firing past, the charges of the cavalry, and the firing of the artillery. Each gun fired four rounds. Marshal Canrobert commanded the troops reviewed; and Marshal Niel, Minister of War, and Marshal Regnault de Saint Jean d'Angely were among the Emperor's staff. The Princess of Wales was in the Empress's carriage, but did not join her on horseback.

"A PRECOCIOUS PERFORMER."

THE picture by which we illustrate the Paris Fine-Art Exhibition this week is one which cannot fail to add to the reputation of the artist whose "Romance à la Mode" was so successful last

year. M. Worms has in the work reproduced in our Engraving taken up an entirely new line; and we see in it the results of his travels in Spain, whither he went in order to study that picturesque life always so fascinating to the artist who desires to paint scenes from human nature. The precocious talent exhibited in this Andalusian family tells its own story. The assembly of friends and neighbours to listen to the performance of the youthful virtuoso on a guitar almost as big as himself; the importance assumed by the music-master who beats time with an air at once proud and anxious; the genuine admiration of the "padre;" the sulky, but not altogether inexcusably dissatisfied manner in which the elder brother receives the disparaging comparison between himself and the musical prodigy; the rather self-satisfied and complacent expression of the musician himself—all unite to render the picture a true work of art, and to ensure just such appreciation as is most readily conceded by the public.

THE ITALIAN MINISTRY.

THE Ministerial crisis, which originated in the division of the 3rd inst. in the Chamber of Deputies, terminated on the 13th. Signor Ferraris, the well-known Piedmontese lawyer, and leader of the defunct Permanente, replaces Count Cantelli as Minister of the Interior. Signor Mordini, the Tuscan deputy, known as former pro-dictator in Sicily, a man of honourable repute and of some Parliamentary ability, takes the department of Public Works, vice Signor Pasini, a well-meaning old gentleman, whose qualifications for that important office were not conspicuous, and whom some



"A PRECOCIOUS PERFORMER."—(PICTURE BY M. WORMS, IN THE PARIS FINE-ART EXHIBITION.)

have supposed to have been taken into the Cabinet chiefly to please his countrymen the Venetians, and so in some degree to reward them for their constant support of the Government. In lieu of Signor Broglio Signor Bargoni takes charge of the Public Instruction; and, however great his zeal and energy, he could hardly desire a wider field for their display. Mordini was formerly one of the leaders of the Left, conjointly with Crispi; but he came round to more Conservative views, and has now for some time been, like Bargoni, a prominent member of the Tiers Parti. Contrary to expectation, De Filippo retains the portfolio of Grace and Justice. Finally, the well-known Romagnol deputy and ex-Minister, Signor Minghetti, has accepted the department of Agriculture and Commerce, usually considered the least important in the Cabinet. The other places remain filled as they were before the crisis.

This crisis, which many said would be over in a few hours, lasted nine days—a nine days' wonder, and yet no wonder in Italy. The affair at the outset seemed very simple and easy of settlement. The Menabrea Cabinet, although on various occasions it had triumphed with respectable majorities, and sometimes with very large ones, did not feel secure. It had owed its victories partly to the divisions of its adversaries, and especially to the support of the Tiers Parti. Among the steadiest and most formidable of its opponents were the malcontent Piedmontese, the group known as the Permanente. It was with great and natural satisfaction that it discerned a disposition on the part of those deputies to abandon their hostile attitude and range themselves among its supporters. The ensuing negotiations having been brought to a successful close, it was resolved to get rid of certain members of the Government who were not thought to give it much strength, and to introduce in their stead the new elements of the Permanente and the Tiers Parti. But no sooner had General Menabrea and his colleagues, in pursuance of this decision, resigned office than intrigues began; and so far were they carried that at one moment it was thought they would result in getting Menabrea himself out of the Cabinet. The old Consorteria made a determined assault upon the highest places. The modification of the Cabinet, proposed as a means of strengthen-

ing the Ministerial majority and of consolidating the union of fractions of the Chamber previously at variance or only partially agreed, was converted into a question of persons. A resolute effort was made to oust Menabrea from the important post of Minister of Foreign Affairs and to replace him by Minghetti. Bearing in mind that the fierce opposition of the Permanente group had its origin in the equivocal policy and ill-advised measures of the Ministry of which Minghetti was the chief, the moment was hardly well chosen to confer upon him the office which, since the creation of the kingdom of Italy, has almost invariably been held by the Premier. Signor Minghetti, perhaps, felt this, and although many smiled ironically when they heard him declare himself willing to serve his country in even the least important post in the Cabinet, he has in that profession proved himself sincere. That he would have preferred the Portfolio of Foreign Affairs cannot be doubted, and his partisans strove hard to obtain it for him. One of the advantages of the post is that it gives its occupant many opportunities of obliging his friends. Of course this had no weight with that little group of busy intriguers which strained every nerve to place Signor Minghetti at the Foreign Office, and some of whom went so far as to vituperate Menabrea for not allowing himself to be pushed out of his place, accepting a minor one, and retaining the Presidency of the Council. For several days the country was left without a Government in consequence of these personal rivalries. The King, who suffers greatly from such heat as has come upon us this week, was burning to go northward and seek refuge in an Alpine hunting-ground, but he was unable to appease the conflict of personal interests. The Opposition sneered at the struggle for place; the public began to think it rather too bad that the affairs of the country should be set aside by it; the Chambers, finding the interregnum last so long and that the Minister did not request them to suspend their sittings, adjourned of their own accord. There were daily conferences at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; various political men had audiences of the King; Cialdini and other notable persons repaired to Florence to support, it was supposed, their respective candidates. Everybody felt sorry for poor M. Minghetti, so ready to

be accommodating if his friends would but allow him. One objection to his becoming Foreign Minister was the predominance it would be supposed to give to French influence in Italy. But it is remembered that a similar objection was made to Rattazzi, and that, nevertheless, when he was commissioned by the King to form a Cabinet in the spring of 1867, the French Legation here was a focus of opposition to his efforts. At last, after an audience given by the King, late on Wednesday night week, to Count Cambray-Digny and Signor Minghetti, the crisis was declared at an end, and next day the official gazette contained the following as the list of new Ministers:—General Menabrea, President of the Council and Minister of Foreign Affairs; Signor Ferraris, Minister of the Interior; Signor A. Mordini, Minister of Public Works; Signor Bargoni, Minister of Public Instruction; Signor Minghetti, Minister of Commerce and Agriculture; the Ministries of Finance, War, and Marine remain unaltered.

A FLY-LEAF IN A LIFE.

(By Charles Dickens.)

ONCE upon a time (no matter when) I was engaged in a pursuit (no matter what) which could be transacted by myself alone; in which I could have no help; which imposed a constant strain on the attention, memory, observation, and physical powers; and which involved an almost fabulous amount of change of place and rapid railway travelling. I had followed this pursuit through an exceptionally trying winter in an always trying climate, and had resumed it in England after but a brief repose. Thus it came to be prolonged until, at length—and, as it seemed all of a sudden—it so wore me out that I could not rely, with my usual cheerful confidence, upon myself to achieve the constantly recurring task, and began to feel (for the first time in my life) giddy, jarred, shaken, faint, uncertain of voice and sight and tread and touch, and dull of spirit. The medical advice I sought within a few hours was given in two words: "Instant rest." Being accustomed to observe myself as curiously as if I were another man, and knowing the advice to meet my only need, I instantly halted in the pursuit of which I speak, and rested. My intention

was, to interpose, as it were, a fly-leaf in the book of my life, in which nothing should be written from without for a brief season of a few weeks. But some very singular experiences recorded themselves on this same fly-leaf, and I am going to relate them literally. I repeat the word—literally. My first odd experience was of the remarkable coincidence between my case, in the general mind, and one Mr. Merdle's as I find it recorded in a work of fiction called "Little Dorrit." To be sure, Mr. Merdle was a swindler, forger, and thief, and my calling had been of a less harmful (and less remunerative) nature; but it was all one for that. Here is Mr. Merdle's case:—"At first, he was dead of all the diseases that ever were known, and of several brand-new maladies invented with the speed of light to meet the demand of the occasion. He had concealed a dropsy from infancy, he had inherited a large estate of water on the chest from his grandfather, he had had an operation performed upon him every morning of his life for eighteen years, he had been subject to the explosion of important veins in his body after the manner of fireworks, he had had something the matter with his lungs, he had had something the matter with his heart, he had had something the matter with his brain. Five hundred people who sat down to breakfast entirely uninformed on the whole subject believed before they had done breakfast that they privately and personally knew physician to have said to Mr. Merdle, 'You must expect to go out some day like the snuff of a candle; and that they knew Mr. Merdle to have said to physician, 'A man can die but once.' By about eleven o'clock in the forenoon something the matter with the brain became the favourite theory against the field; and by twelve the something had been distinctly ascertained to be 'Pressure.' Pressure was so entirely satisfactory to the public mind, and seemed to make everyone so comfortable, that it might have lasted all day, but for Bar's having taken the real state of the case into court at half-past nine. Pressure, however, so far from being overthrown by the discovery, became a greater favourite than ever. There was a general moralising upon Pressure in every street. All the people who had tried to make money and had not been able to do it said, 'There you were! You no sooner began to devote yourself to the pursuit of wealth than you got Pressure.' The idle people improved the occasion in a similar manner. 'See,' said they, 'what you brought yourself to by work, work, work! You persisted in working, you overdid it, Pressure came on, and you were done for!' This consideration was very potent in many quarters, but nowhere more so than among the young clerks and partners who had never been in the slightest danger of overdoing it. These one and all declared, quite piously, that they hoped they would never forget the warning as long as they lived, and that their conduct might be so regulated as to keep off Pressure, and preserve them, a comfort to their friends, for many years." Just my case—if I had only known it—when I was quietly basking in the sunshine of my Kentish meadow! But while I so rested, thankfully recovering every hour, I had experiences more odd than this. I had experiences of spiritual conceit, for which, as giving me a new warning against that curse of mankind, I shall always feel grateful to the supposition that I was too far gone to protest against playing the sick lion to any stray donkey with an itching hoof. All sorts of people seemed to become vicariously religious at my expense. I received the most uncompromising warning that I was a heathen, on the conclusive authority of a field preacher, who, like the most of his ignorant and vain and daring class, could not construct a tolerable sentence in his native tongue nor pen a fair letter. This inspired individual called me to order roundly, and knew in the freest and easiest way where I was going to, and what would become of me if I failed to fashion myself on his bright example, and was on terms of blasphemous confidence with the Heavenly Host. He was in the secrets of my heart and in the lowest soundings of my soul—he!—and could read the depths of my nature better than his A B C, and could turn me inside out, like his own clammy glove. But, what is far more extraordinary than this—for such dirty water as this could alone be drawn from such a shallow and muddy source—I found from the information of a benighted clergyman, of whom I never heard and whom I never saw, that I had not, as I rather supposed I had, lived a life of some reading, contemplation, and inquiry; that I had not studied, as I rather supposed I had, to inculcate some Christian lessons in books; that I had never tried, as I rather supposed I had, to turn a child or two tenderly towards the knowledge and love of our Saviour; that I had never had, as I rather supposed I had, departed friends, or stood beside open graves; but that I had lived a life of "uninterrupted prosperity," and that I needed this "check overmuch," and that the way to turn it to account was to read these sermons and these poems, inclosed, and written and issued by my correspondent! I beg it may be understood that I relate facts of my own uncommercial experience, and no vain imaginings. The documents in proof lie near my hand. Another odd entry on the fly-leaf, of a more entertaining character, was the wonderful persistency with which kind sympathisers assumed that I had injuriously coupled with the so suddenly relinquished pursuit, those personal habits of mine most obviously incompatible with it, and most plainly impossible of being maintained, along with it. As, all that exercise, all that cold bathing, all that wind and weather, all that uphill training—all that everything else, say, which is usually carried about by express-trains in a portmanteau and hat-box, and partaken of under a flaming row of gas-lights in the company of two thousand people. This assuming of a whole case against all fact and likelihood struck me as particularly droll, and was an oddity of which I certainly had had no adequate experience in life until I turned that curious fly-leaf. My old acquaintances, the begging-letter writers, came out on the fly-leaf, very piously indeed. They were glad, at such a serious crisis, to afford me another opportunity of sending that post-office order. I needn't make it a pound, as previously insisted on, ten shillings might ease my mind. And Heaven forbid that they should refuse, at such an insignificant figure, to take a weight off the memory of an erring fellow-creature! One gentleman, of an artistic turn (and copiously illustrating the books of the Mendicity Society), thought it might soothe my conscience in the tender respect of gifts misused if I would immediately cash up in aid of his lowly talent for original design, as a specimen of which he inclosed me a work of art which I recognised as a tracing from a woodcut originally published in the late Mrs. Trollope's book on America, forty or fifty years ago. The number of people who were prepared to live long years after me, uniting benefactors to their species, for fifty pounds apiece down, was astonishing. Also, of those who wanted bank notes for stiff penitential amounts, to give away—not to keep, on any account. Divers wonderful medicines and machines insinuated recommendations of themselves into the fly-leaf that was to have been so blank. It was specially observable that every prescriber, whether in a moral or physical direction, knew me thoroughly—knew me from head to heel, in and out, through and through, upside down. I was a glass piece of general property, and everybody was on the most surprisingly intimate terms with me. A few public institutions had complimentary perceptions of corners in my mind, of which, after considerable self-examination, I have not discovered any indication. Neat little printed forms were addressed to those corners, beginning with the words "I give and bequeath." Will it seem exaggerative to state my belief that the most honest, the most modest, and the least vain-glorious of all the records upon this strange fly-leaf was a letter from the self-deceived discoverer of the recondite secret, "how to live four or five hundred years"? Doubtless it will seem so; yet the statement is not exaggerative by any means, but is made in my serious and sincere conviction. With this, and with a laugh at the rest that shall not be cynical, I turn the fly-leaf and go on again.—*All the Year Round*.

A TRADE DISPUTE AT BOLTON was settled on Tuesday by means of arbitration. The house-carpenters and joiners of the town had made demands upon their masters which were not conceded, and resisted the proposal of the masters that the system of payment by the hour should be introduced. The Recorder of the borough, who had been called in to settle the questions, met the representatives of masters and men, and effected a settlement of the points in dispute.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

"ROBERT LE DIABLE" was produced last week at the Royal Italian Opera with moderate success. It is known that the representation of Meyerbeer's most characteristic work had been delayed through an accident to Mdlle. Titiens. The Alice of the evening was warmly welcomed on her reappearance, and she, on her part, responded to this welcome by a very expressive rendering of the charming romance "Va dit elle." Mdlle. Titiens's voice has not suffered by her recent illness, which is the more fortunate inasmuch as she is now the only competent representative of great dramatic parts, among which it seems strange that the simple, graceful part of Alice should be classed. The second tenor, Signor Corsi, sang his original and very melodious ballad, "Jadis regnait en Normandie," creditably enough, and the chorus comported itself in excellent style. Robert appeared in the person of Signor Mongini, whose clear, resonant voice was never heard to better effect than in this trying but far from ungrateful part. Signor Foli, as Bertram, was picturesquely dressed, and looked capable of any amount of villainy. But the great novelty in the performance of a work which must be thoroughly familiar to all opera-goers, was the assumption by Mdlle. Lima de Murska of the part of Princess Isabelle. This stiff, somewhat conventional personage gains life and colour in the hands of the very original Hungarian artiste, who, moreover, sings the renowned air of the fourth act, "Robert, toi que j'aime," with genuine passion. In short, the singing parts are all well filled; while the representative of the Abbess Helena, though not absolutely of European fame, is, nevertheless, a very fair dancer, and quite fascinating enough for the attraction exercised by the Abbess upon Robert to appear natural.

One of the most brilliant performances of the season was that of "La Sonnambula" last Saturday night, when Madame Adelina Patti made her first appearance in the character of Amina. How charmingly Madame Patti sings and with what intensity of feeling she acts in this, in many respects her best part, has often been told, and must now be told once more. After each fresh reappearance, too, some further improvement in Madame Patti's voice and style has been noted, and must now be noted again. After all, it is not surprising that, making her debut in London at the age of eighteen, this marvellously-endowed singer should have gone on steadily improving year by year—not from imperfect becoming perfect, but developing with each successive year some new perfection. Even under ordinary circumstances Amina is the life and soul of the "Sonnambula." What, then, must she be when represented by Madame Adelina Patti? However, Elvino is also someone, and someone both interesting and important when Signor Mongini plays the part as he did last Saturday. Signor Mongini sang very expressively throughout, but was particularly successful in the air of the third act, which he delivered with admirable vigour. Signor Baggiolo, as Count Rodolfo, made up grotesquely, but was, fortunately, less original in his singing than in his attire.

At the last Philharmonic concert Madame Norman-Neruda, the lady violinist whose marvellous performances have been the theme of enthusiastic eulogy on the Continent for some time past, made her first appearance in England, playing the adagio and rondo from a concerto composed by M. Viennetemps. These movements, original and effective in themselves, were favourably calculated to exhibit the astonishing powers of Madame Neruda, with whom no lady violinist, not even the sisters Milanollo, can be compared. Madame Neruda's success was unequivocal, and she was twice enthusiastically called forward at the end of the concerto. Great success was also obtained at this concert by Madame Monbelli, who is as new to the English public as Madame Neruda, and in her sphere quite as admirable. She sang Rossini's inimitable "Una voce poco fa" in a style as original as it was delightful. Her voice is a genuine mezzo-soprano, of rich and mellow quality, and her execution is as fluent as her phrasing is natural and expressive. Madame Monbelli created a most favourable impression, and was called back with enthusiasm after the cavatina.

Mr. Charles Hallé has resumed his Friday "Pianoforte Recitals" at St. James's Hall. The scheme of the performances this season is precisely what it was in 1868. The programmes are entirely devoted to Beethoven and Schubert. All that is published of Schubert's works for pianoforte alone, including the eleven sonatas, will be given, together with all the miscellaneous solo compositions of Beethoven for the same instrument—thus, as before, excluding the thirty-two sonatas, which, for the greater part, are much more familiar to the public. The selection at the opening "recital" was varied and happy. Of Schubert, it contained the sonata in A minor, known as "Op. 42," and called (without sufficient reason) his "first"; the second of the three "Impromptus," Op. 90, in E flat; and the Fantasia in C, Op. 15. From Beethoven were chosen the andante in F, intended originally for the grand sonata dedicated to Count Waldstein (Op. 53), but subsequently rejected for a shorter and far more appropriate introduction to the last movement; together with four of the "Bagatelles." At the second recital, Mr. Hallé gave from Schubert the fiery sonata in D major, Op. 53, belonging to the same set of three as the A minor, which, with its fellows, so greatly excited the enthusiasm of Robert Schumann; the smaller but still interesting sonata in A major, known as Op. 120, but evidently an earlier work than the Op. 53 or the Op. 42, while greatly inferior to either; and two pieces from the posthumous relics, which, though now published in England—where, of recent years, a much more lively interest seems to have been taken in Schubert than in the country of his birth—were till the present moment wholly unknown.

The first public performance in England of Rossini's "Messe Solennelle" took place, on Wednesday afternoon, at St. James's Hall, before a brilliant and crowded assembly. Mr. Benedict was the responsible director of this memorable concert, and the performers were the band and chorus of the Royal Italian Opera, with a select staff of soloists from the same company, under the conduct of Signor Arditi.

NEW MUSIC.

From a large collection of new music before us we will begin by calling attention to the complete edition of Mr. A. S. Sullivan's "Cox and Box," which was fully noticed in these columns on the first performance of the operetta at the Adelphi Theatre. Messrs. Boosey and Son have now published the pianoforte score in a handsome volume, which ought to be much in demand with amateurs ambitious enough to attempt a performance of this clever and agreeable, but by no means pretentious work.

"La Fleurette" (Simpson and Weipert) is the title of a waltz specifically described as "Valse de Salon," for which its composer, Mr. E. Otley, has found several easy and graceful themes.

Messrs. Willey and Co. have just brought out three compositions from the fertile pen of Mr. J. L. Hatton, of which the best is a gracefully-written and very dramatic song entitled "She Stole My Heart Away." "The Choice" (same publishers), by Mr. Henry Smart, is based on a very pleasing melody which, we need scarcely add, considering who is the composer, is provided with an admirable accompaniment.

The contents of *Exeter Hall* for May are—1. Song, "O Lord, my God," by George Barker; 2. Pianoforte piece, "Dies Irae," from Mozart's "Requiem," by Boyton Smith; 3. Evening Hymn, "The day is past and over," by R. Redhead; 4. Song, "The Lord is gracious," by Alexander S. Cooper; and, 5. Sunday Evenings at the Harmonium, No. 15, by E. F. Rimbauld.

MADAME TASSAUD'S "CHAMBER OF HORRORS" has recently had added to its other ghastly occupants a figure of Sheward, the Norwich murderer. Additions have also been made lately to the other departments of the exhibition.

A COMMITTEE, of which Mr. Antonio Brady, Registrar of Contracts and Public Securities, is chairman, has been appointed by the Admiralty for the purpose of investigating matters connected with the system of taking contracts under the Admiralty. The committee commenced its sittings at Portsmouth Dockyard on Wednesday, and is not likely, it is thought, to terminate its labours for a fortnight.

OBITUARY.

THE REV. ALEXANDER DYCE.—The death was announced on Wednesday morning of the Rev. Alexander Dyce, whose name is well known in the literary world. He was the son of a general officer, and was born in 1798. He was ordained, in 1819, to the Curacy of Llantiglos, Cornwall; and was afterwards Curate of Nayland, near Colchester. This appointment he resigned in 1827, and, settling himself in London, devoted himself to literature. His earliest publications were "Select Translations from Quintus Smyrnaeus," an edition of the poet Collins, and "Specimens of British Poetessae." He subsequently edited, with notes and biographies, the dramatic works of Peele, Greene, Webster, Middleton, Beaumont and Fletcher, Marlow, and Shirley. He also published the critical and theological works of Bentley, the poetical works of Skelton, while he contributed the lives of Shakespeare, Pope, Akenside, and Beattie to "Pickering's Aldine Poets." Mr. Dyce, however, is best known by his valuable editions of Shakespeare. For the Camden Society he undertook the publication of Kemp's "Nine Days' Wonder," and for the Shakespeare Society, of the old tragedies of "Timon" and "Sir Thomas More." He was also one of the founders of the Percy Society, several volumes of whose series were edited by him. He was the author of "Recollections of the Table Talk of Samuel Rogers."

HERR MOLIQUE.—We have to announce the death of Herr Molique, whose loss will be deplored as much by affectionate friends as by admiring artists. Molique's long life was passed in so absorbing a pursuit of his art that his career, remarkable though it was, was also singularly uneventful. He was born on Oct. 7, 1803, at Nuremberg, in which venerable city his father held the position of Stadtmusikus. He was early instructed in the use of many instruments, but he soon developed so unequivocal a preference for the violin that his studies were henceforward entirely devoted to a mastery over its difficulties. By the time he was thirteen years old he had learnt all that his father could teach. So the boy was then taken to Munich, where, by special permission of King Maximilian, he was instructed by Pietro Rovelli, the first violinist of the Court. It is one of the most pleasant prerogatives of Royalty to be able thus to foster rising talent. Young Molique profited so well by his opportunities that in two years he was qualified to take a place in the orchestra of the Theater an der Wien, in the Austrian capital, and in two years more he returned to Munich to assume the office held by his former master. Hethen began to make artistic journeys here and there; but in 1826 he accepted the post of Hofmusikdirektor in Stuttgart, and held it until 1849, when he settled permanently in London. Here he increased his already wide reputation, gaining, meanwhile, the esteem of all with whom he came in personal contact. As executant and composer Molique was equally remarkable. His violin-playing had almost every essential requisite. His tone was full, his intonation faultless, his execution singularly perfect, and his reading of the great masters full of sustained grandeur and true nobility of purpose. He could never have become popular in the wide sense of the word—in the first place, because he would not condescend to degrade his art; and, in the second, because he was deficient in the fire and enthusiasm which alone prevail with a general audience. As his playing was, so was his writing. His compositions were full of elegant thoughts, expressed in language of faultless purity, and adorned with every resource that musician-like skill and consummate knowledge could dictate—wanting only, indeed, in the "sacred spark" which comparatively few in the world's long history have possessed. Among his works may be mentioned five concertos for his own peculiar instrument, the violin, the violoncello concerto played by Signor Piatti some few weeks ago, six string quartets, numerous trios and duets, a mass in B minor, published in Vienna, and at least one symphony, played in Leipzig. One of his last works was the oratorio "Abraham," produced at the Norwich Festival of 1860—a fine composition, which, although not calculated to catch the general ear, is far superior to several similar productions by more successful men which have since been forced into public favour. It was the intense labour attendant upon the writing of this oratorio, amidst many other occupations, that undermined a constitution previously robust enough. Molique gradually became unfit for work, and at length, some two years since, he retired to his native land, there to breathe away in peace what remained to him of life. His was one of those simple, honest, guileless natures which are most often found in combination with high intellectual gifts and large artistic culture. The man will be long regretted by those who knew him; but his works will still be longer prized by thousands to whom Molique will be nothing more than a name.

THE ENTRIES FOR THE FORTHCOMING METROPOLITAN HORSE SHOW comprise about 140 hunters, 120 hacks and harness horses, and 40 ponies; while the miscellaneous classes bring the total number to about 350. The exhibition will be opened to the public on Monday, the 31st inst.

THE BODY OF LADY FIRTH, the wife of Sir Charles H. Firth, was on Sunday found in the river Wharfe, at Bolton Bridge, near the well-known Stepping-stones, close to Bolton Abbey. The deceased lady left the principal inn in the place on the previous day for a walk, and it is not known when or how she got into the water.

A SERIOUS AFFRAY is reported to have taken place at Ballybegone, a village ten miles from Tralee, between the police and the people. The former interfered for the purpose of putting a stop to a local disturbance, when they were assailed by the mob, and one constable was wounded. The constabulary then dispersed the crowd, with the assistance of firearms, but not before three of their number had received severe injuries.

THE SHIP BLUE JACKET, from New Zealand to London, was burnt at sea on the 9th inst. The captain (Lytellton), first officer, seven of the crew, and all the passengers were landed at Queenstown; but two life-boats, with thirty-six men, are missing. Four thousand sovereigns have been saved. There were other 4000 in each of the missing boats, and 48,000 were lost in the vessel.

SIR THEOPHILUS BIDDLEPH met with a serious accident at Warwick last Saturday. While at drill with the Warwickshire Yeomanry Cavalry, his horse became restive, and he was thrown upon the ground with great force. A doctor was summoned, and found the honourable Baronet suffering from temporary concussion of the brain and a severe flesh wound in the face, from which he had lost a large quantity of blood. He was also greatly shaken. In the course of the day, however, he was much better.

MR. W. E. FORSTER, M.P., presided at a great educational meeting, at Leeds, on Wednesday night. The right hon. gentleman explained at some length the principal provisions of the Endowed Schools Bill, and, speaking of the importance of giving the youth of this country as thorough an education as possible, maintained that it was the business of the State to turn the Universities and the endowed schools into great national institutions, to which all parties and all creeds should have access.

PROGRESS OF THE COLONIES.—Mr. John Robinson, of Natal, read a paper "On the Progress of the Colonies," at the Society of Arts, on Wednesday night. There was an unusually large attendance, and Sir George Grey (late Governor of the Cape Colony) presided. Mr. Robinson was very decidedly opposed to the severance of the connection between the colonies and the mother country, which he showed, by elaborate statistics, was of very great service to us in many ways. In the discussion that followed, Sir George Grey expressed the same views.

THE GRAND ORANGE LODGE OF IRELAND have drawn up an address to the Queen, signed "Enniskillen," setting forth their opinion as to the evils which will result from disestablishment and disendowment. They assert that it will affect the Royal supremacy and establish the authority of the Pope. They end by a reference to the Treaty of Union, and to the growth of a repeal sentiment which they say they observe in all parts of the country. The Home Secretary has written to Colonel Cole stating that the address has been laid before the Queen.

ABORIGINAL PROTECTION SOCIETY.—The thirty-second annual meeting of the Aborigines Protection Society was held at the London Tavern on Wednesday night. The chair was taken by Mr. Thomas Hughes, M.P., who earnestly advocated the principle that all the races under the sway of Great Britain should be treated as our fellow-citizens. Mr. M. D. Conway spoke on behalf of the Indians of the United States, and congratulated the friends of humanity on the appointment by General Grant of members of the Society of Friends as Indian Commissioners. Mr. R. N. Fowler, M.P., severely reprobated the conduct of the Dutch Boers in South Africa, and alluded to the action of the Governor of the Cape Colony in surrendering to the Orange Free State the most fertile districts of the native territory of Basutoland. The Rev. Messrs. Cassels and Daumas advocated similar views. Dr. Humphry Sandwith and Mr. Craft supported the resolution, condemning the traffic in Pacific Islanders. The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.
FRIDAY, MAY 14.

BANKRUPTS.—A. ASHFOLD, Chelsea, greengrocer—E. BUCHENO, Ramsey, bank manager—G. BENTON, Clerkenwell, carpenter—J. BESY, Burton-croft, cornery—A. BOWLES, Oxford, timber-merchant—J. BURTON, Bournemouth, grocer—H. CARVER, Deptford, accountant—H. CASTLE, Kensington, sub-proprietor—J. CROFT, Waltham-green, beer retailer—W. J.

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Proprietors of Captain White's Oriental Pickle, Curry Paste,
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NEW MUSIC.—DUFF and STEWART, 147, Oxford-street, have just published the following, which are greatly admired:—"Woe," by W. H. Holmes;—"None can tell," by G. B. Allen;—"The Alpine Home," and "I'm a Fisher Maiden," by N. de Gioia;—"Good-night, sweet Mother," by N. de Gioia;—"Sunshine o'er my soul," by J. Berger; and "Mignonette," by S. Champion.

NEW MUSIC.—DUFF and STEWART have just published PIANOFORTE ARRANGEMENTS of "Fra Diavolo" and "Der Freischütz," by E. L. Hime;—"Oberon," by E. Schreyer;—"The Village Curfew," by W. Kuber;—"Ye Happy Birds," by J. Benedict;—"Robin Adair," by B. Smith;—"Off in the Silly Night," by E. de Paris;—"Bay of Biscay," by R. F. Harvey;—"The Fairy Boat," by R. Richards. 147, Oxford-street.

HEBB REICHAARDT'S New Song, OF THERE I THINK (Ich Danke Dein), sung with distinguished success by the Composer, is published (beautifully illustrated), price 4s., by DUNCAN DAVISON, 244, Regent-street.

On Friday, the 28th inst., One Shilling, No. 114, **THE CORNHILL MAGAZINE** for JUNE. With Illustrations by Robert Barnes and George Du Maurier. Put Yourself in His Place. (With an Illustration.) Chapters VIII. and IX. Waldstein and his Times. Part II. Idolatry. Maisons de Santé. A Birthday. The Alchemist. The Courtyard of the Ours d'Or. (With an Illustration.) Military Signalling and Telegraphy. SMITH, ELDER and CO., 15, Waterloo-place.

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Game Carvers, 1 pair ..	0 6 6	0 8 0	0 9 6
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	0 15 0	0 15 0	0 15 0

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